

Go Deep

James 2:20-26

Group Questions:

1. In verse 21, James says that Abraham was “considered righteous (justified) for what he did.” What does it mean to be “justified” before God? If Abraham did not offer Isaac on the altar, would he have been justified? Do you and I need to “do” something in order to be right with God?
2. *Compare James 2:24 with Romans 3:28-4:1-5.* Do James and Paul contradict each other?
3. *Read 2:22.* How did Abraham’s faith “work together with his actions”? In what way was his faith “made complete by his actions”?
4. Why does James use Rahab as an example of great faith, when he might have used someone like Moses?
5. *Read 2:26.* Why is this verse a fitting illustration to sum up James’ point?

Application Questions:

1. Is it possible to do good deeds without faith? How do you know if your deeds are motivated by faith or something else?
2. In the sermon, Kevin said that knowing God like Abraham did is the key to trusting God like Abraham did. How do you come to know God better? Have you ever met someone who seems to know and understand God better than most?
3. Abraham was called “God’s friend” (2:23). How does a human being become friends with God? Would you describe your relationship with God as a “friendship”?