

# m MASTERCLASS | JAMES

## DAILY DEVOTION

### DAY 10

#### READ

JAMES 2:20-26

#### FOCUS

<sup>20</sup>YOU FOOLISH PERSON, DO YOU WANT EVIDENCE THAT FAITH WITHOUT DEEDS IS USELESS? <sup>21</sup>WAS NOT OUR FATHER ABRAHAM CONSIDERED RIGHTEOUS FOR WHAT HE DID WHEN HE OFFERED HIS SON ISAAC ON THE ALTAR? <sup>22</sup>YOU SEE THAT HIS FAITH AND HIS ACTIONS WERE WORKING TOGETHER, AND HIS FAITH WAS MADE COMPLETE BY WHAT HE DID. <sup>23</sup>AND THE SCRIPTURE WAS FULFILLED THAT SAYS, "ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS," AND HE WAS CALLED GOD'S FRIEND. <sup>24</sup>YOU SEE THAT A PERSON IS CONSIDERED RIGHTEOUS BY WHAT THEY DO AND NOT BY FAITH ALONE. <sup>25</sup>IN THE SAME WAY, WAS NOT EVEN RAHAB THE PROSTITUTE CONSIDERED RIGHTEOUS FOR WHAT SHE DID WHEN SHE GAVE LODGING TO THE SPIES AND SENT THEM OFF IN A DIFFERENT DIRECTION? <sup>26</sup>AS THE BODY WITHOUT THE SPIRIT IS DEAD, SO FAITH WITHOUT DEEDS IS DEAD.

#### REFLECTION from DIRECTOR CHELSEA CIANFRANI

Before I even read the passage that I was assigned for today's devotional I was praying it would be this one! Right now, as I write this, tons of people are on campus here at church--in the midst of working outside in the ash and hot weather to get ready for a huge weekend at SCG. And you know what? It's not just staff out there, it's volunteers too. And this passage sums up exactly why everyone is out in the ash and heat working for an event that isn't even for them (hint: it's for the kids). And to be honest I needed the reminder.

The first line says it all "You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless?". When I read this sentence, it's like "hello, this is common sense!" These two things (faith and deeds) always go together, you can't have one without the other. Faith requires deeds or more simply put, action. When I sat down to write this devotional I simply wanted to write, "READ IT. DO IT. REPEAT!" (and then paint it on my wall!). This passage is straightforward and to the point. If you are truly a follower of Christ then you will naturally produce fruit and put your faith into action.

Honestly, I think God gave me this passage because I need to CONSTANTLY be reminded that my faith requires action and sometimes that action is not what I feel like doing. I work in youth and after Fall Kick Off one year, I was out in the parking lot picking up the sticky trash that was everywhere. I kept thinking to myself, "Why am I the one doing this?" and it was like God said, "Why would you not be the one doing this?". Whenever I feel like not putting my faith into action, or I think a task is not meaningful enough to do, I have to remind myself of this passage.

So, I'm going to keep it short because we should all READ IT. DO IT. REPEAT! Repeat reading scripture, repeat drawing close to God, and repeat putting your faith into action.

#### QUESTIONS

- WHAT FRUIT OR BLESSING HAVE YOU SEEN IN YOUR LIFE WHEN YOU HAVE PUT YOUR FAITH INTO ACTION?
- WHAT TASKS HAS GOD PUT IN FRONT OF YOU THAT YOU FEEL HE IS CALLING YOU TO TAKE ACTION ON?