A Working Faith

James wrote, asking believers to think about their faith. He asked, “What good is it if someone claims to have faith but does nothing about it?” Suppose someone is without clothes and food and you say to him, “God be with you. I hope you stay warm and get something to eat.” If you say this, but do not help with the things he needs, then how does this help? It is the same with faith.

Someone might say, “You have faith, but I do things.” Both believers and unbelievers think there is one God. But as believers, we are different. We want to help others and show our faith and love for God. Do you want evidence that faith without action is useless? Look at Abraham. He was thought of as righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar. His faith and his actions were working together. A person is thought of as righteous by what he or she does through faith, not by faith alone. A body that does not have a spirit is dead. It is the same with faith. Faith that does nothing is a dead faith!

Key Verse:
Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. (James 2:18b)
Hello, everyone! Ruby here! Kwame had a great idea to purchase extra supplies for his classmates. That’s what I call a random act of kindness! Any act of kindness, no matter how big or small, can make a big difference in someone’s life. It brings joy to both the receiver AND the giver.

During the next week, think of some ways that you can show kindness to others. For some ideas, visit this great Web site: https://www.coffeecupsandcrayons.com/100-acts-kindness-kids/. Don’t forget to get your parents’ permission first. Create a poster on “Acts of Kindness” and bring it to class next week to share.

Exercising Faith in School

Kwame loved returning to school after summer break. He would always get new shoes, new clothes, a new backpack, and new school supplies. He usually did not like to go shopping with his mother and sister, but today he was the first one in the car.

“Mom, I want a Captain Marvel backpack. I also need five notebooks, five mechanical pencils, loose-leaf paper, three glue sticks, and a box of colored pencils,” Kwame explained.

“That’s quite a list, young man. We’d better get busy,” Mom responded.

“Well, that’s not actually everything I would like to get,” Kwame noted.

“I didn’t see anything else on the school supply list. What are you missing?” Mom asked.

“Sometimes, we have students that come to school and they don’t have supplies. I thought it might be a good idea to bring in extras for some of my friends that might not have as much as I have,” Kwame commented.

“I think that’s a wonderful idea. Let’s get busy—we have a lot of shopping to do!” Mom replied.

As Kwame grabbed the shopping cart from his mom, he looked back and said, “We sure do!”
Complete the Sentences

Complete the sentences related to today’s lesson by filling in each blank with the correct word from the Word Bank.

WORD BANK
body • dead • faith • righteous • things

1. What good is it if someone claims to have __________ but does nothing?

2. Someone might say, “You have faith, but I do __________.”

3. Faith that does nothing is a ______________ faith.

4. A __________ that does not have a spirit is dead.

5. A person is considered (thought of as) ________________ by what he or she does by faith, not by faith alone.
True or False?

Read each sentence below and circle T if the statement is true, or F if it is false (not true). Use the Bible story to help you find the correct answer.

1. When someone is hungry you should say, “I hope you get some food,” but not offer to help the person.

2. Abraham is an example of faith and actions working together.

3. Faith that does nothing is alive.

4. A person is considered righteous by both faith and works (actions), not just faith alone.

5. Demons do not believe in God.