

## Small Group Questions

June 9, 2019

Faith Works (series on the book of James)

Message: "Ready for the faith test?"

Our series through the entire book of James, entitled "Faith Works," will unpack the gritty, real-world nature of faith in the Jesus of the Bible. Written by Jesus' brother, this book was first written to people paying a high price for their faith. Not only does James call them to endure but he pulls no punches in giving strong direction for how to live out that challenged faith. He covers a number of practical issues when it comes to any and all of us, leading us away from the idea that faith is just a matter of the heart or mind. It certainly includes the heart and mind but it is as real as the world around us that does not always embrace it.

The hope of this series lies in folks taking practical steps in their faith as it pertains to real life and what they may be experiencing. We will try, each week, to give personal ways to apply what we are learning.

Thank you once again for your service to God by loving the people in your group!

(Questions to get everyone to participate)

1. Which subject in school presented you with the most challenging test? How did you cope with that challenge?
2. Which best describes your temper: short fuse, big bomb; long fuse, little fizz?; long fuse, H-bomb? Give an example.

(Questions based on the primary texts)

Read James 1:19-26.

3. Illustrate what it means to be "quick to listen." How does this produce the "righteous life that God desires?"
4. What is the point of the mirror image? How is this point reflected in the worthless or pure religion (:26-27)?
5. Think of one significant relationship you have. What would change if you had applied :19-20 with that person this week?
6. What input into your life helping you live out faith more?
7. What input into your life is not helping you live our faith more? What should you do about that?
8. What one part of this passage would you want to put into practice this week? Why that one?

