

## “Beyond Belief...*blending faith & works*

### **James 2:14-26**

#### *Discussion Questions*

**Note:** *To give & receive the greatest benefit from this discussion, please review your own sermon notes, read & reflect on these discussion questions in advance.*

1. Several group members read **James 2:14** from as many translations as are present.

\* How would you reconcile this with Paul’s statement in **Ephesians 2:8-10**?

\* What are basic changes would you expect to see in the life of someone who becomes a Christian i.e. actions & attitudes?

2. Someone read **James 2:15-17**.

\* On a scale of 1-10 (weaker to stronger) where would you rate yourself on compassion? Share some specific examples.

\* Why do you think some Christians are quicker to notice & respond to people’s needs than others i.e. upbringing, personal experience, spiritual maturity etc?

\* How might a Christian develop greater compassion i.e. teaching, prayer, involvement in benevolence ministry or community assistance programs etc?

3. Someone read **James 2:18-19** & the statement about God from EFCA doctrine.

*We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.*

*Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.*

\* What is it about the doctrine of God that would cause demons to shudder?

\* Is there anything about that statement that would cause you to shudder in fear or shout for joy?

4. Someone read **James 2:20-26**

\* What did Abraham have to believe about God to even consider sacrificing his son?

\* What did Rahab have to believe about God to even consider hiding the spies?

\* What do we risk by obeying God? What do we risk by disobeying Him?