

3. What would be the characteristics that would be obvious if you were doing the good work not for your own glory but for God's?

Preparation for Session 5—The tongue

James 3

Read Psalm 34:8-14; Proverbs 1:1-7; 2:6-12; 21:20-23 and 1 Peter 3:8-12

The Parish of Cannock and Huntington

Creating Community with Christ at the Centre

Bible Studies on James

A study of faith in action according to St. James

Session 4—Faith on the Move

Read James 1:22-27 and 2:14-25

In this study James addresses FAITH and ACTION.

It is a timely message for today's church. The church, the Body of Christ, must be doers of the word and not hearers only.

James 1:22

If we are to be doers of the word there are certain truths we all need to embrace.

1. **BELONGING James 2:14 'my brothers and sisters'**

Throughout this letter James stresses again and again the relationship we share as Christians. C.f. 1:2, 2:1&14, 3:1, 4:11, J:19

The church is a family where believing people are in truth brothers and sisters in Christ. There is no closer bond than the family.

2. BEHAVING v15 'if a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food.... Yet you do not supply their bodily needs what good it that'

The early Christians were known for their compassion and good deeds. We too need to demonstrate our faith by helping others in a practical and tangible way.

3. BELIEVING V19 'You believe that God is one you do well'

What we believe determines how we live. Sunday by Sunday we say 'I believe' but in whom do we believe? What so we believe?

4. BECOMING consider Abraham and Rahab v21 & 25

Abraham's example—A changed life—obedience to God's will. A perfect example of how faith and works interrelate.

Rahab—She knew the truth and her heart was moved by the . A perfect example of head and heart faith.

We need examples from everyday life to show that even the most difficult challenge is achievable.

Questions?

- 1. We have heard the expression 'couch potato', what are the characteristics of 'pew potatoes'?**
- 2. If you were to make a commitment to do a specific act of kindness as least once a week what would you do?**