

## **Saved By Faith, the Kind that Produces Works**

James 2:22-24 (ESV)

22 You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; 23 and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”— and he was called a friend of God. 24 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

Romans 4:2-4 (ESV)

2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. 3 For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” 4 Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due.

Galatians 3:5-7 (ESV)

5 Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— 6 just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”? 7 Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham.

Genesis 15:3-6 (ESV)

3 And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” 4 And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” 5 And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” 6 And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

James 2:21 (ESV)

21 Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar?

Genesis 22:15-18 (ESV)

15 And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven 16 and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17 I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, 18 and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

Ephesians 2:8-12(ESV)

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

## Mapping Out Faith and Action—the various possibilities.

### The Gas Tank

Faith can be illustrated by thinking of a car:

If the gas tank is full of water, the car goes nowhere and is useless.

If the driver gets out and pushes the car, what good is that?

If there is gas in the tank, but no key in the ignition, then it is as good as empty.

The design of things is that we fill the tank with gas and turn the engine on!!

### A Simple Graph

	Start	Step One	Step Two	Step Three	Finish
A	Alone from God, Sinful	Try Harder to Be Good	Ask God for Approval	Keep Trying to Be Better	Righteous, with God
B	Alone from God, Sinful	Ask God for Approval	Keep on Living		Righteous, with God
C	Alone from God, Sinful	Ask God for Forgiveness	Try Harder to Be Good		Righteous, with God
D	Alone from God, Sinful	Ask God for forgiveness	Be filled with Holy Spirit	Live a Transformed Life	Righteous, with God

### Summary

Faith without action is either an empty sentiment or powerless words.

Action without faith is pride in one's self or dis-respect for God.

Faith which produces action is the transforming power of God.