

# WHEN YOU EXERCISE GENUINE FAITH

JAMES 1:26, 27

*How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)*

BACKGROUND: For some, baptism or weekly attendance at church is the validation of genuine faith in Christ, but for James it is the actions of a transformed life.

**LIKE JESUS, YOUR TONGUE IS UNDER CONTROL.** Instead of using your tongue to broadcast your perceived evils in others' lives, you use it to make Jesus attractive to others. (James 1:26, fn 1:26, Matthew 12:34-37, fn 12:34-36, Ephesians 4:25, 29, fn 4:25, fn 4:28-32, Proverbs 17:9, fn 17:9, Proverbs 18:8, fn 18:8) *How does your tongue reveal your relationship with the Holy Spirit?*

**LIKE JESUS, YOU HELP THE HELPLESS.** You have a new heart from Jesus, and this heart is empathetic to those who are less fortunate. All around you there are orphans, widows, poor single moms, the unemployed, and more that need your encouragement and help to get through their hard days and experience the love of Jesus. Our Lord promises to be generous to us with His grace when we are generous in loving and ministering to others. (James 1:27, fn 1:27[1<sup>st</sup>], Matthew 25:34-45, fn 25:35-40, II Corinthians 8:7-15, fn 8:7, 8, fn 8:12[1<sup>st</sup>], fn 8:12[2<sup>nd</sup>], Luke 6:38, Deuteronomy 14:28-29, fn 14:28, 29) *How could you know when to give and who to minister to? Why are you blessed in your giving?*

**LIKE JESUS, GOD'S KINGDOM IS YOUR KINGDOM.** Therefore, you should be careful to avoid or run from any worldly entanglement that could harm or jeopardize your intimacy with Jesus. (James 1:27, fn 1:27[2<sup>nd</sup>], Colossians 1:12-14, fn 1:12-14, Romans 12:1, 2, fn 12:2, I John 2:15-17, fn 2:15, 16, I John 5:1-5) *How could being in the world but not of the world validate to you your genuine faith?*

*Check up—How is your relationship with your neighbor, your spouse, and your Lord. Do your actions show that you are being led by the Holy Spirit?*

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