

# "The Pillar" Part 2 | cfParis



## Sermon Summary "Faith That Moves"

Pastor Cory's sermon challenges the idea that faith is merely about belief, emphasizing that true faith must be lived out through actions. It addresses the misconception that salvation is the finish line when, in reality, it's just the beginning of a transformed life. The message also critiques the traditional altar call approach, urging believers to take ownership of discipleship and evangelism in their everyday relationships rather than relying solely on the pastor.

Using James 2:14-26, the sermon highlights how faith without action is dead and useless, calling Christians to demonstrate the presence of Jesus in their lives through their works. Salvation is a free gift, but it should lead to visible change, inspiring others to believe and follow Jesus. Ultimately, faith is not proven by words alone but by the fruit it produces in everyday life.

## Key Themes & Takeaways

### 1. Faith is More Than Words

- James challenges the idea that belief alone is enough, arguing that faith must be demonstrated through actions (James 2:17).
- Even demons believe in God, but they tremble—what does our belief produce? (James 2:19).

### 2. Salvation is the Start, Not the Finish Line

- Accepting Jesus is just the beginning of a transformed life, not the end goal.
- If God moves into your life, there should be evidence—spiritual growth, changed priorities, and impact on others.

### 3. Living a Gospel That Inspires

- The church should be a place where people see faith in action, not just hear about it.
- If our lives don't reflect the Gospel, why would anyone be inspired to follow Jesus?

### 4. The Role of Relationship in True Conversion

- True life change happens in community, not just through an emotional altar call.
- We are responsible for discipling those around us, not just bringing them to church.

### 5. Obedience & Transformation

- When Jesus enters your life, He wants access to everything (your habits, thoughts, lifestyle).
- God's Spirit is always working to shape us, stretch us, and make us more like Him.

### 6. Grace is a Gift, But it Should Inspire Change

- We don't earn salvation—it's a free gift through faith.
- But real faith compels us to live differently—it's not an excuse to stay the same.

### 7. Faith That Impacts Others

- Our faith should be evident to others in how we love, serve, and act.
- If Jesus has truly changed our lives, it should be impossible to hide that transformation.

### Final Challenge:

The sermon closes with a call to self-examination:

- Does my life reflect the presence of Jesus?
- Am I actively living out my faith, or just claiming to have faith?
- How can I demonstrate God's love through action this week?

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## Discussion Questions

### Warm-Up (Icebreakers)

1. What's one area of your life where you've seen personal growth in the past year?
2. If someone observed your daily life for a week, what would they say you value most?

### Going Deeper

3. The sermon emphasized that salvation is just the beginning, not the finish line. How does that change the way you think about faith?
4. James 2:17 says, 'Faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.' How does this challenge the way many people view Christianity?
5. The message highlighted that a true conversion happens through relationships, not just a one-time emotional decision. How can we be more intentional in leading others to faith through our everyday relationships?
6. What are some practical ways we can 'demonstrate' our faith through actions, rather than just words?
7. The sermon mentioned that when Jesus comes into our life, He wants access to every part of it. What are some areas we tend to hold back from Him?
8. The phrase 'belong, believe, become' is central to cfParis. How does living out your faith through actions help others believe and belong in Christian community?
9. James 2:19 states that 'even demons believe—and tremble.' What's the difference between simply believing in God and truly following Him?

### Application

10. What's one step you can take this week to let your faith be visible through your actions? Who in your life might be impacted by seeing that change?

### Notes for the Group Leader

- Encourage your members to attend the Compass class and the Practicing the Way course. Those happen on a rolling basis - check the App or Website for details.
- Also don't forget to take attendance for your group using the cfParis App. Add any pertinent notes, praise stories or prayer requests.