Faith in Action part 1
James 1-5

1. Faith in Christ comes by hearing <u>the Word</u>
"He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word…humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls." James 1:18 & 21

"So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News (Word) about Christ." Romans 10:17

- **I share my <u>faith with others</u>** **I listen to the <u>Word often</u>**

2. Faith in Christ requires <u>humility</u>
"Listen to me, dear brothers and sisters. Hasn't God chosen the poor in this world to be rich in faith? Aren't they the ones who will inherit the Kingdom he promised to those who love him?" James 2:5

"As the Scriptures say, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." [7] So humble yourselves before God." James 4:6-7

- **I daily recognise my need of <u>Christ</u>**

3. Faith in Christ <u>grows</u> through testing
"Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. [3] For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. [4] So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing." James 1:2-4

- **I joyfully <u>welcome testing</u> as I know it gives me a chance to grow spiritually**

4. Faith in Christ is made <u>complete</u> by actions
"What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone?" James 2:14

"Don't you remember that our ancestor Abraham was shown to be right with God by his actions when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? [22] You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete. [23] And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." He was even called the friend of God. [24] So you see, we are shown to be right with God by what we do, not by faith alone." James 2:21-24

"[25] Rahab the prostitute is another example. She was shown to be right with God by her actions when she hid those messengers and sent them safely away by a different road. [26] Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works." James 2:25-6

- **I look for opportunities to put my faith <u>into action</u>**

"My dear brothers and sisters, how can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ if you favour some people over others?" James 2:1

"There will be no mercy for those who have not shown mercy to others. But if you have been merciful, God will be merciful when he judges you." James 2:13

"Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, [16] and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? [17] So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless." James 2:15-17

"Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds."
[19] You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. [20] How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless?" James 2:18-20