

Week 2: Authentic

Icebreaker:

Share about a time you “talked a good game” about something but didn’t end up following through. What held you back, and what did you learn from it?

Read Together: James 2:14-20

(Encourage someone to read these verses aloud, then take a moment to reflect on what stands out.)

Discussion Questions

1. **Reflecting on the Story**

What do your stories of “talking a big game” teach us about the difference between intention and action? How does this apply to our faith?

2. **Understanding Faith in Action**

James 2:17 says, “Faith by itself isn’t enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.” Why do you think it’s essential for our faith to be expressed through actions rather than only in belief?

3. **Faith and Favoritism**

James 2:1-5 warns against showing favoritism. Can you think of situations—maybe at work, school, or in social settings—where we unintentionally or intentionally show favoritism? How does this challenge the way we should live as followers of Jesus?

4. **Expressing Faith Daily**

In what areas of your life do you find it hardest to express your faith through actions? (Examples could include showing kindness to difficult people, giving to those in need, or serving without expecting something in return.)

5. **Overcoming Judgments**

Jesus modeled loving everyone without prejudice, breaking down social divides, and embracing the “outsiders.” Where do you feel God is calling you to step out of your comfort zone to love or serve someone who might be different from you?

Application:

Identify one way you can live out your faith this week by taking action where you know you should. This could be extending kindness to someone who feels left out, donating to a charity, volunteering your time, or simply starting a conversation with someone you wouldn’t usually talk to. Take a few minutes to write down your commitment for the week.

Closing Thought:

Living out our faith is more than just saying we believe—it’s showing it through our actions, breaking down divides, and loving as Jesus did. Let’s be people known not just for what we say, but for how we live, serving and loving all people without favoritism.

This guide encourages participants to reflect on practical expressions of faith and to commit to an action step, helping connect the teaching to real-life application.