

## 2026-02-15 Summary

This message confronts us with a challenging question: Is our faith merely intellectual agreement with God's existence, or is it a living, breathing force that transforms everything we do? Drawing from Hebrews 11 and James, we're reminded that authentic faith isn't passive—it's generative, always moving and working. The sermon walks us through Genesis 1, showing how God spoke creation into existence from nothing, and connects this to our own lives: just as God commanded light to appear and land to produce vegetation, He speaks into our hearts, calling us to produce fruit. The thief on the cross is addressed honestly—yes, Jesus could give salvation while alive, but we who remain aren't thieves on crosses. We're called to something more: a faith that doesn't just believe in God, but believes God enough to obey Him. The Hall of Faith in Hebrews 11 showcases Abel offering sacrifice, Noah building an ark without seeing rain, and Abraham leaving everything for an unknown destination. Each acted on what they believed. James reinforces this powerfully: faith without works is dead, and merely hearing the word without doing it is self-deception. The path to blessing isn't found in asking God for more while we remain unchanged, but in looking intently into His word, allowing it to transform us, and then doing what it says. Our world desperately needs authentic Christians—not perfect people, but changed people whose lives demonstrate that Jesus is real.