

**Delta Group Lesson-
March 30th, 2008
“Straight Up — Live
from Lincoln—It’s Faith”**

Big Idea: Faith Trusts and Obeys.

It is much easier to talk about God than to obey Him. For many people Faith is primarily intellectual. For others



faith is determined by emotions, Unfortunately, James tells us that even demons have faith that exercises their intellect and emotion.

We find in James 2:14-26 that a dynamic faith includes a third dimension, the will. This depth of faith manifests itself through action that demonstrates a surrendered will. Many Christians do not follow Christ they merely believe Him. This message challenges us to return to our theme verse James 1:22. Don't merely listen but do what it says.

Will we choose to be “saved only” or will we enjoy the blessing of a faith that is activated. “Authentic Faith Trusts and Obeys!”

Open it:

As a group come up with examples of advertisements that can be misleading? (travel destinations, food products, etc.)

Dig it: Read James 2:1-13

1. Read James 2:14-26
2. Retell in your own words the three stories in this passage which illustrate the interaction between faith and works (vs. 15-17, 21-22, 25) Add any details that you might remember from the Old Testament stories (See Genesis 22, Judges 2 and 6 to refresh your memory)
3. Why is mere intellectual agreement to truth not enough? Vs. 19
4. How does James's closing analogy (vs. 26) summarize his teaching on faith and actions?

Reflect on it:

1. What are some ways that we as Christians don't put actions behind our words?
2. How do people who don't know Christ respond when they see Christ followers whose beliefs and actions are far apart?
3. How can we balance teaching how we are saved with how we shall we shall live?

Do it:

In what ways can you bring your actions more in line with your beliefs?