

## St. Louis-Area Disciples Summit on Racial Justice – September 19, 2015

### Morning Worship Responsive Reading

**Reader:** We will have a responsive reading of James 2: 14-27, you will repeat with me:

***Faith without works is dead!***

**Reader:** <sup>14</sup> My friends, what good is it to say you have faith, when you don't do anything to show that you really do have faith? Can that kind of faith save you? <sup>15</sup> If you know someone who doesn't have any clothes or food, <sup>16</sup> you shouldn't just say, "I hope all goes well for you. I hope you will be warm and have plenty to eat." What good is it to say this, unless you do something to help? <sup>17</sup> Faith that doesn't lead us to do good deeds is all alone and dead!

**(ALL): *Faith without works is dead!***

**Reader:** <sup>18</sup> Suppose someone disagrees and says, "It is possible to have faith without doing kind deeds." I would answer, "Prove that you have faith without doing kind deeds, and I will prove that I have faith by doing them." <sup>19</sup> You surely believe there is only one God. That's fine. Even demons believe this, and it makes them shake with fear.

**(ALL): *Faith without works is dead!***

**Reader:** <sup>20</sup> Does some stupid person want proof that faith without deeds is useless? <sup>21</sup> Well, our ancestor Abraham pleased God by putting his son Isaac on the altar to sacrifice him. <sup>22</sup> Now you see how Abraham's faith and deeds worked together. He proved that his faith was real by what he did. <sup>23</sup> This is what the Scriptures mean by saying, "Abraham had faith in God, and God was pleased with him." That's how Abraham became God's friend.

**(ALL): *Faith without works is dead!***

**Reader:** <sup>24</sup> You can now see that we please God by what we do and not only by what we believe. <sup>25</sup> For example, Rahab had been a prostitute. But she pleased God when she welcomed the spies and sent them home by another way. <sup>26</sup> Anyone who doesn't breathe is dead, and faith that doesn't do anything is just as dead!

**(ALL): *Faith without works is dead!***