

Tuesday - March 24

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? Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, 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? So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

James 2:14-17 (NLTB)

The book of James has helped me on my faith journey with practical advice for being a Christian where he says that basically, your actions speak louder than your words.

When I began to write this devotional I prayed for divine inspiration to say something meaningful. This year the phrase that came to me is "Do the work." On our faith journey, we have to be willing to do the Bible study, take time to help others and do the next right thing to try to continue or develop a relationship with God.

My faith journey was begun for me by my parents, being brought up in the Catholic church. My family was involved in church activities and my dad sang in the choir. Bill and I were married in the Catholic church and it wasn't until our children were starting school that we decided to start coming to Powell United Methodist Church. We quickly became involved with the children's activities, pageant, VBS etc.

I began doing Bible study and Disciple classes. It was there that I discovered that God doesn't always choose the smartest, best people to share God's message. He chose the people that were going to act and do something for the people around them.

Being on a journey of faith is difficult because there are so many distractions from being focused on God. I think that Lent provides us with an opportunity to give something up, like less social media, or take something on, like reading the Bible or spending some quiet time with God.

Being a person of faith does not mean you have an easy life. My parents, in-laws, and many aunts, and uncles have passed to be with God. My faith comforts me to remind me that my loved ones are happy with God and that I will see them again one day.

Karen

Prayer: Dear God, help us to be more focused on You and the blessings You give us every day. Show us ways to help others in any way we can, even if it's just a smile and hello. Help us share Your love with all. Amen.