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The Glue: The New Life part 2

1 message

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To: News <news@gfcsandiego.com>



*Note: Printable version attached. The sermon is available online at www.gfcsandiego.com.

The 1 minute Glue: The new life is not based on works but faith, yet it works or there is not faith. When you are born again your new life in Christ produces good works. If your life is not producing good works, step back and take a look at the scriptures and examine to see that you have faith in what the Lord says.

The New Life part 2

I am fascinated by what it means to be born again. A new identity and completely new heavenly life. The human vocabulary is not sufficient to begin to explain the length, width, depth and height of all that God has done. God saved us to be sons that are like Him and that do what He does. Today we are going to focus on this new life in the area of faith producing works.

*Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, 2 to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men. Why? Because that is who they are now. This is what born again people do. 3 For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. 4 But when the **kindness** and the **love** of God our Savior toward man appeared God's love and kindness is directed toward you and all of mankind, God does not hate you, He wants to save you., 5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He **saved us...** Titus 3:1-5* The new life is not based on works but faith, yet it works or there is not faith.

Our works cannot produce righteousness to save us. It is impossible for human works to redeem us or bring us into favor with God, but that does not mean that once we are saved we do not do righteous works. However we are not working for acceptance and love but in response to God's acceptance and love, we work in obedience to Him. The issue in the garden was belief and obedience, not works and it remains that way. Out of our belief and obedience we obey Him by doing good works. If we will not obey Him and do righteous works we do not know Him or His love.

*Dear children, don't let anyone deceive you about this: When people do do is an action word what is right, **it shows*** This is a presentation of

righteousness that they are righteous, even as Christ is righteous. 8 But when people keep on sinning, **it shows** that they belong to the devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil. By the way that is our job as well. 9 Those who have been born into God's family do not make a practice of sinning, because God's life is in them. So they can't keep on sinning, because they are children of God. 10 So now we can tell who are children of God and who are children of the devil. Anyone who does not live righteously and does not love other believers does not belong to God. 1 **John 3:7-10** NLT The proof is in the pudding. The tree bears the fruit that it is.

What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? **Can faith save him? No** 15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? 17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. **James 2:14-17**

The deception and tendency would be to run out and do works to perform for God but that is not what he is saying. Your works are a gauge and measurement to whether or not you are in the faith. Your works show you what you believe, why you do it and who you love. True faith must find its expression in works or it is dead, lifeless and useless. So based on your works are you in the faith? If your works are frail and lifeless then pursue faith in God, not performance for God. Then out of your faith you will produce good works.

Works develop your faith. 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? (Hebrews says, Abraham, concluded by faith that God was able to raise Isaac from the dead.) 22 Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? (Means to complete, accomplish, or consummate, finish) 23 And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." And he was called the friend of God. 24 You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. **James 2:21-24**

Without works your faith is dead so works have a part in justifying your faith. The scriptures have made it clear that you cannot continue to do works of unrighteousness and be a believer or be in the faith. Somewhere along the way we have been misled into thinking that we can merely profess to be a believer without works of righteousness and the word of God says that is deception. Our actions or works actually prove that we are true Christians. Also, works actually have a part in maturing your faith. Faith is like a muscle and it grows by good works. Faith ignites obedience which does good works which in turn increases our faith to live at higher levels of obedience.

For example, we step out by faith in our "good work" of tithing and giving offerings. Then this work of giving matures and increases our faith in God and His supply for our lives. Thus our faith is matured or made perfect by our works. The conclusion then, is obey your faith by expressing it in works and your faith shall be made perfect and you will be called a friend of God.

Our vision is to glorify God by being a life-giving church that reaches the lost, disciples the heart and equips God's people to observe all that Jesus has commanded.

Sunday Service 10:30am, Sunday School 9:30am

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