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What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

James 2:14-17 (ESV)

WHAT KEEPS US FROM MAKING A DIFFERENCE?

1. The Past
2. The Crowd
3. The Unknown

A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road. By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by. A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side. Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, "Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I'll pay you the next time I'm here."

Luke 10:30-35 (NLT)

THREE ATTRIBUTES OF A DIFFERENCE MAKER:

1. OPEN _____

*Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him... **Luke 10:33 (NLT)***

*Moved with compassion Jesus reached out and touched him. "I am willing," he said. "Be healed!" **Mark 1:41 (NLT)***

*Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. **Matthew 14:14 (NLT)***

*So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. **Luke 15:20 (NLT)***

2. WILLING _____

*Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. **Luke 10:34 (NLT)***

*When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late. Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." But he answered, "You give them something to eat." **Mark 6:34-37 (NIV)***

3. SHARED _____

Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, "Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I'll pay you the next time I'm here."

Luke 10:34-35 (NIV)

- Time
- Talents
- Treasures

*Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done. **Proverbs 19:17 (NIV)***

*Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. **Hebrews 13:16 (ESV)***

For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, "You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land."

Deuteronomy 15:11 (ESV)

ONE KEY TAKEAWAY

From this message, what is the one key takeaway you will apply to grow your faith?