

# THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST BIBLE OUTREACH

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## FIRST THREE DAYS OF THE MONTH

**CHRISTIAN HOME, LIVING FAITH WITH MARITAL FULFILMENT.**

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James 2:26

[26] "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."

### WHAT IS LIVING FAITH?

The closest that the Bible comes to offering an exact definition is Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

From this particular passage we see that the central feature of faith is confidence or trust.

In the Bible, the object of faith is God and His promises.

Living faith is the kind of faith God wants us to have.

A living faith is an active faith.

The unfailing faith.

Living faith means to strive to live as Jesus lived. This means to diligently do what the apostle John wrote in 1John 2:6: 1 "He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

1 John 5:3

"For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome"

How do we receive faith, and how do we demonstrate and grow in living faith?

We receive and grow in faith by studying the Holy Bible and seeing what God has done in the past and what He promises for the future.

It also requires that we "diligently seek Him" and strive to be like Him.

What is the difference between dead faith and living faith?

Dead faith is proclaiming faith without acting in faith. It often camouflages itself as devotion or compassion, so it can be hard to recognize. But like a hollow promise, dead faith hurts people and accomplishes nothing good,

while living faith bears fruit and brings healing and life to the world.

**What is Marital Fulfillment?**

Most couples commit their lives to each other propelled by romantic feelings. And there is nothing wrong with romance. However, satisfaction and fulfillment in marriage comes from a deep and abiding love that grows over time. Love grows as we practice patience with one another.

Love deepens as we are kind to one another, encourage one another, and forgive one another.

A healthy marriage leads to marital fulfillment.

The Bible teaches (and research confirms) that in a healthy marriage, each spouse becomes a student of the other.

What do you learn from each other?

You learn what makes your spouse feel respected and loved.

Do things that reinforce those feelings.

You learn what your spouse enjoys and figure out how to have fun together.

And you learn what turns your spouse off and adjust accordingly.

In a healthy marriage, husband and wife communicate desires, feelings and dreams. You both enjoy the gift of physical intimacy created for marriage

(1 Corinthians 7:1-5).

In a healthy marriage couples don't intentionally hurt one another especially with words.

In a healthy marriage where both husband and wife serve each other, honor and care for each other, marriage is mutually satisfying and marriage will be a source of great joy.

This kind of marriage relationship doesn't happen overnight. And it does not happen without intention.

Brethren, the effort you put into your marriage is worth it.

The time you take to do something thoughtful for your 1st spouse, the words of encouragement you speak, the time you spend alone together, these are investments to have marital fulfillment.

Let me close with the story of a couple who went to a worldly marriage counselor to improve their sex life.....