

Open Heaven 2 September 2025 Today Devotional & Commentary

Description

The Open Heaven 2 September 2025 devotional for today is FAITH WITHOUT WORKS.

This is a daily devotion written by Pastor E. A. Adeboye, General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG).

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OPEN HEAVEN 2 SEPTEMBER 2025 TODAY DEVOTIONAL

TOPIC: FAITH WITHOUT WORKS

MEMORISE:

Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.
James 2:17

READ: James 2:20-26:

20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?

22 Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?

23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

24 Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.

25 Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way?

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

RCCG OPEN HEAVEN 2 SEPTEMBER 2025 TODAY MESSAGE

Years ago, some Christian students in a particular university came to me and said, “We don’t know what is going on. Those of us who are in the fellowship are always the ones failing.” I replied them, “This might be because, at the time you are supposed to be studying, you are in the fellowship.”

They said, “Is it not written that the Holy Spirit will help us?” I responded, “Thank God for the Holy Spirit, but the Bible says that the Holy Spirit will remind you of the things you have learnt. However, if you do not learn anything and end up failing, after He chastises you, He will comfort you.”

Beloved, to walk in God’s blessings, faith must go hand-in-hand with works. For example, in Luke 5:1-9, Jesus came to Peter, who had a boat and asked him to lend Him the boat for a while. After preaching from the boat, Jesus told Peter to cast his net into the sea for a catch. If Peter had not cast his net, he would not have seen the glory of God. If he had just said, “I believe you, Jesus. I know You can do all things,” and had refused to obey the simple instruction, he would have returned home empty-handed that night.

Instead, he said, “At thy word – because You have spoken to me – I will do what You say.” He took a step of faith and did the work of throwing his net into the sea. Then, he caught so many fishes that his net broke. People who add works to their faith experience ‘net-breaking’ miracles. Another example of someone in the Bible who added works to their faith is the woman with the issue of blood in Luke 8:43-48. She did not just stop at knowing that Jesus carried the healing anointing, she forced her way through a large crowd just to touch the hem of His garment.

The result was that she was instantly healed of a sickness she had suffered from for 12 years.

If you are not doing anything in line with the faith you claim to have, that faith is dead. You cannot sit in your house and pray for a job when you are not applying for any. Likewise, you cannot be trusting God for a visa to another country when you do not even have an international passport. Bring your faith to life by adding works to it; faith without works is dead.

ACTION POINT

Take steps of faith concerning the things you are trusting God for.

BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

Ezekiel 28-30

HYMN 33: GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH!

OPEN HEAVEN DEVOTIONAL 2 SEPTEMBER 2025

COMMENTARY

MEMORISE: James 2:17 (KJV)

“Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.”

This verse is the cornerstone of the devotional's message. It presents a spiritual principle: faith, in its biblical definition, is not a passive state of belief but an active force. True, living faith will always produce corresponding actions. Without these actions, faith is a corpse—it has the appearance of life but lacks the breath and power that makes it real and effective.

BIBLE READING: James 2:20-26 (KJV)

This passage provides the theological foundation, using two powerful examples. Abraham's faith was proven genuine when he obeyed God's difficult command to sacrifice Isaac. Rahab's faith in the God of Israel was demonstrated when she acted by hiding the spies. In both cases, their works did not earn their salvation; rather, their works were the visible evidence and completion (“made perfect”) of the invisible faith they possessed.

The Danger of Spiritual Passivity

Daddy Adeboye begins by addressing a common pitfall in Christian circles: misapplying faith to justify negligence. The students confused faith with a magical formula, believing the Holy Spirit's help replaced their responsibility to study. The commentary correctly distinguishes the Holy Spirit's role as a *reminder* of what has been learned (John 14:26), not a substitute for learning itself. This highlights a critical truth: God's supernatural intervention is most often activated in the context of our diligent obedience and effort. Expecting God to do for us what He has given us the capacity and responsibility to do ourselves is not faith; it is presumption.

Biblical Case Studies: Faith in Action

The devotional uses two potent New Testament examples to illustrate the dynamic partnership between faith and works:

1. **Peter's Obedience (Luke 5:1-9):** Peter, a professional fisherman, had just finished a fruitless night of work. Jesus' command to cast the net again went against all his experience and logic. His faith was not in the *command* itself, but in the *person* who gave it: “at thy word.” The *work* of throwing the net was the physical manifestation of his trust in Jesus' word. The result was a “net-breaking,” overwhelming miracle that far exceeded his natural capacity. This teaches that God's miraculous provision is often waiting on the other side of a specific, sometimes illogical, act of obedience.

2. **The Woman's Pursuit (Luke 8:43-48):** This woman's faith was not passive hope. Her belief that touching Jesus' garment would heal her drove her to a series of desperate *works*: she spent all she had on doctors, fought through a crushing crowd, and stretched out her hand. Her action was the necessary point of contact for her faith to release the healing power in Christ. Her work did not earn the healing; it accessed the grace that was already available through Christ.

Bringing It Home: Practical Application

The interpretation moves from biblical stories to modern-life application, making the message painfully clear and practical. The examples of praying for a job without applying or trusting God for a visa without getting a passport are masterful because they expose the absurdity of dead faith in everyday terms. They show that faith is not a spiritual excuse for inaction. True, living faith in God for a job will be accompanied by the *work* of preparing a resume, searching for openings, and attending interviews, all while trusting God for favor. This is the synergy God designed: we do the natural, and God supernaturally blesses our obedience and effort.

The Consequence of Dead Faith

The underlying warning is that dead faith is ultimately useless faith. It cannot save (James 2:14), it cannot produce miracles, and it leads to frustration and failure, as seen with the university students. It creates a cycle of disappointment where God is wrongly blamed for not acting when the believer did not step out in obedient action.

Pray this:

"Father, forgive me for every time I have used 'faith' as an excuse for my inaction or disobedience. I renounce a passive spirit. Holy Spirit, ignite in me a living, active faith that is courageous enough to obey Your Word and promptings. Give me the strength to cast my net, to push through the crowd, and to do the practical works that demonstrate my trust in You. Let my life be a testament to a faith that is alive and powerful, in Jesus' name."

Action Steps:

1. **Identify an Area of Passivity:** Where in your life have you been 'praying' but not 'doing'? Be specific (e.g., a relationship, a financial goal, a health issue).
2. **Define the 'Work':** What is one practical, obedient step God is asking you to take in that area? (e.g., make that difficult phone call, create a budget, schedule a doctor's appointment).
3. **Act on 'His Word':** Do that thing not in your own strength, but specifically "at His word," declaring your dependence on Him as you obey.
4. **Study James 2:** Read this chapter daily for a week. Ask God to reveal any other areas where your faith needs to be coupled with action.

Remember: God is not a magician; He is a Master Builder. He provides the blueprint (His Word) and the materials (His grace and power), but He expects you to pick up the tools and build. Your obedient action is the tool that brings the blueprint of His promises to life in your reality.

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