

FAITH THAT SHOWS UP

June 29, 2025 // Craig Rees • Anna

BIG IDEA:

Dead faith avoids, distances, and delays—but living faith draws close, shows up, and seeks God.

KEY SCRIPTURES:

Proverbs 3:27

Matthew 25:40

John 15:5

Romans 3:28

Galatians 5:22–23

Galatians 6:2–6,10

Ephesians 2:8–9

Thessalonians 3:10

Titus 2:14

James 1:1,2,16,19

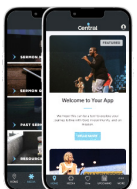
James 2:1,2,5,12,14,17,26

James 3:1; 4:11; 5:7–9,19

1. How does the family lens (brothers and sisters) change the way we read James 2? What are the dangers when reading it without that lens?
2. What does it look like to live “close enough to notice” in your current stage of life?
3. How do you discern when a need is yours to meet versus someone else’s to carry?
4. James calls faith without deeds “dead.” What’s the difference between a faith that exists and a faith that moves?
5. When have you experienced spiritual disconnection masked as spiritual language?
6. How do Galatians 6:2–5 and Proverbs 3:27 help balance when to step in and when not to?
7. What’s the difference between restraint rooted in wisdom and disconnection rooted in self-preservation?
8. What’s one step you can take this week to build covenantal presence with someone in your church family?
9. How can a “group chat” kind of faith affect our real-world responsibility to care for others?

Dear God, When I drift toward independence, draw me back to interdependence. When I choose safe distance over costly presence, remind me that faith moves toward family. When I’m too distracted to see others or too busy to hear You, slow me down to stay close. I don’t want a faith that floats above—I want a faith that moves in. Teach me to live close enough to others to notice, and close enough to You to obey.

Give me eyes to see need without judgment, ears to hear You without delay, and a heart ready to respond in love. Help me belong with both conviction and compassion. Let my life reflect Your nearness—because You didn’t love from afar. I believe You draw near. I believe You place me in Your family. I believe You’re calling me to show up. AMEN.



Get the weekly sermon questions on the **Central Holland App!**