

James 2:14-26 Inward Faith should bear outward fruit.

God is too big to move in and NOT re-arrange the Furniture!

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(James 2:17) *Faith is Dead if it is not accompanied by works.*

I call it ... *NEAR FAITH*

Illus: Ever heard of NEAR BEER?

It looks like beer, tastes like beer, but is missing the alcohol.

Likewise it looks like faith, it sounds like faith, but it doesn't have an outward effect on that person's life.

(Phil 2:12-16) We are to *WORK OUT* our own salvation. The purpose is, that we shine as *Lights in this World*.

(1 Sam 16:7) says that man looks on the outward appearance.

(2 Cor 6:4) The Word of God, and God Himself are on trial. Thus we, as His Ambassadors, are on trial as well. We are to live our lives *APPROVING OURSELVES*.

Our faith ought to have an effect on our daily living by affecting the decisions we make.

(Heb 6:1) We start with the Bible Principles, but that is not the end but the beginning.

We must take the Word of God and its principles and go forward and live our lives accordingly.

A **Principle** is a Bible truth I must live by.

A **Conviction** is a personal belief based on a **Bible Principle**.

Rom 14:5 We are to be Persuaded in our own mind. **Persuaded** is a Heart change about something.

A **Standard** is a guideline that helps me keep my **Convictions**.

Websters ~ That which is established as a rule or mode

Whats the Big Deal? If you are saved, someone lived it in front of you!

The Principle of Vision: *the eye affects the mind, and the mind affects the body. (Lam 3:51)*

Conviction: I want to keep myself from sin.

Standard: (Ps 101:3)

The Principle of Representation: *I represent Christ in everything I do or say. (Col 3:17)*

Conviction: I am the only Bible some people will ever read.

Standard: **1 Cor 10: 31** *Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.*

The Principle of Fellowship: *God commands us to fellowship with other believers in Church. (Heb 10:24)*

Conviction: *It's my responsibility to include others in my life. (1 John 4:11) Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.*

Standard: **Heb 10:25** *I Don't Miss Church!*

The Principle of Holiness: *Because I belong to God, I must be Holy. (1 Pet 1:15-16) I am consecrated to God*

Conviction: *I cannot allow sin into my life because it drags God into it when I do. 1 Cor 6:15-20*

Standard: *(Psa 119:11) Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.*

The Principle of Light & Darkness: *As a Christian, I have nothing in common with the world. (2 Cor 6:14-17)*

Conviction: *The World is no friend of Mine! James 4:4 I will fight the urge to give into sin! (Rom 6:12) Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.*

Standard: *(Rom 13:14)(I will) put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.*

The Principle of the Weaker Brother: *My acts influence others. (Rom 14:7)*

Convictions: *1 Cor 6:12 Not everything I do builds others. I am willing to voluntarily restrict my liberty in Christ in order to minister effectively to others.*

Standards: *1 Cor 8:13 I uphold higher personal standards than those I am trying to influence for Christ!*

The Principle of Replacement: *Replace wrong with right. (Matt 12:43-45)*

Conviction: *I cannot have victory over fleshly appetites through abstinence alone.*

Standard: *I must develop appetites for Godly things by purposely feeding on them. (Music, Literature, entertainment. Activities)*

(Phil 4:8) *Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, **think on these things.***

The Principle of Affections: *(2 Cor 4:18) This world is temporary. I must make the eternal more important than the earthly.*

Conviction: *(Col 3:1-2) If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.*

Standard: *(Mat 6:33) But (I will) seek first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*

The Principle of Associations: *Wrong associations lead to wrong behavior. (1 Cor 15:33, Prov 13:20)*

Conviction: *I am who I associate with. Tell me who your friends are...*

Standard: *2 Cor 6:14a I guard who I allow myself to associate.*

The Principle of Priorities: *Jesus should be Number 1. (Col 1:18-19)*

Conviction: *(1 John 4:19) I should love him, because he first loved us.*

Standard: *(John 14:15) If ye love me, keep my commandments.*

“I will obey the leading of the Holy Spirit!”

(Rom 8:14) For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

The Principle of Doubtful Things: *When in doubt, DON'T.*
(If it's doubtful, it's dirty) Rom 14:23, 1 Cor 14:32-33, 1
Thes 5:21-23

Conviction: *The Testimony of Christ is too important to
cause shame to Him!*

Standard: *I will not engage in anything I would be ashamed
to have Him come back and find me doing!*

The Principle of Temptation: *I must avoid temptation, not
just sin. (James 1:13-15)*

Conviction: *I have appetites to avoid and overcome*
Rm7:18-24

Standard: *I must take charge of what I expose myself to.*

The Principle of Purity: *It is God's will for me to be pure.*
(1 Thes 4:1-8)

Conviction: *I am to completely avoid that which defiles me.*
1 Thes 4:3-7

Standard: *(Rom 13:14)(I will) put on the Lord Jesus Christ,
and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts
thereof.*

The Principle of Authority: *I should follow God-ordained
authority. (Rom 13:1-2)*

Conviction: *Our God is a God of Order. He has setup a
structure of Authorities in the 3 earthly institutions to
provide order and guidance.*

Government-Rom 13:3-6; 1 Pet 2:13-14

Home-Father Led Home - *The children don't make
the rent.*

Church- Heb 13:7,17 *Pastor Led Church.*

Standard: Rom 13:7 *Show proper submission to Authority.*

The Principle of Feelings: *I must live by the Bible, not my
feelings. (Ps 42:5,11; What are you so upset about? Jer
17:9)*

Conviction: *The flesh is contrary to the Spirit and must be
brought under control. 2 Cor 10:3-5 (Tired, sore, pain,
depressed, anxious)*

1. *God knows how you feel.*

2. *God still expects you to obey! Illus: Don't like
crowds.*

Standard: *I choose how I will respond rather than just
react.*

The Principle of Imitation: *I am to Imitate Jesus. (1 Pet
2:21)*

Conviction: *I am an Ambassador for Christ. 2 Cor 5:20*

Standard: *When others see me, they should see Christ.*
Rom 8:29

The Principle of Weights: *Anything that hinders me from
meeting my obligations and service to God is a weight and
needs to be laid aside. (Heb 12:1-2)*

Conviction: *Matt 6:33 furthering God's Kingdom is top
priority.*

Standard: *I will lay aside my pride and be open to outside
critic from others.*

The Principle of Excellence: *God deserves my best! (Phil
1:9-10)*

Conviction: *The best testimony for Christ is success in all
areas. Ecc 9:10*

Career: Col 3:23-23; Eph 6:5-8; **Reward=**Prov 22:29

Standard: *1Cor 10:31 I will strive for excellence in all
areas.*

The Principle of Readiness: *We should be ready and able to explain our beliefs. (1 Pet 3:15)*

Conviction: Acts 1:8

Standard: I will Memorize the Romans Road

The Principle of Concentration: *Don't look back, it's futile. Don't look around, it's unwise. Don't look down, the world has nothing for you. (Lk 9:57-62)*

Conviction: Ecc 11:9

Standard: Prov 11:14 I will seek Godly Counsel

The Principle of Preparedness: *I must always be ready for Jesus to return. (Matt 24:42-47)*

Conviction: This World is not my home! 1 Pet 2:11

Standard: Place a greater priority on eternal things. Matt 6:20; 16:26

The Principle of Generosity: *It's Godly to Give. (Acts 20:35; Jh 3:16)*

Conviction: It is all going to burn. 1 Pet 3:10

Illus: The ashes all look the same!

I can't take it with me. Job 1:21

You can't out give God! Lk 6:38

Standard: I am going to tithe, and honestly ask God how much He wants me to give, and where He wants me to give.

The Principle of Enslavement: *A Christian should recognize that he is owned and always be controlled by God. (1 Cor 6:12, 20)*

Conviction: I Belong to Christ!

Standard: My desires are to be in line with Christ's

The Principle of Minding Your Own Business: *I got all I can handle with my own affairs. (1 Thes 4:11)*

Conviction: John 21:21-22 I need to focus on what God has called Me to do

Standard: Don't /measure/compare others to myself

The Principle of Worry: *God wants me to pray, not worry (Phil 4:6-9)*

Conviction: Worry is an Act of Faithlessness.

Standard: I will trust God, take Him at His word, and walk by faith

The Principle of Defilement: *A little sin defiles a lot. (Hag 2:12-13; Dan 1:8)*

Conviction:

Standard:

The Principle of Yieldedness: *I must yield my will to God. (Rom 6:13)*

Conviction:

Standard:

The Principle of Discipleship: *I am to be making Disciples. (2 Tim 2:2)*

Conviction: This is a command to me personally.

Standard: I am to be a soul Winner and a discipler.