

/add-verbs/

Add Verbs questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family, and/or with a group.

In the Bible, “Christian” is a noun, and nouns need verbs. To be authentically Christian you must ADD VERBS to your faith. Let’s search for verbs to add to our faith, starting in the book of James.

1 “DO!” might be the least obvious verb, but it is potentially the most important. Read James 1:22-25. What role is God’s Word meant to play in our lives? What do you do to ensure that you are not just a person who hears God’s Word, but one who does what it says?

2 CHRISTIANITY IS *doable*. While Paul is known for emphasizing the truth that salvation is not the product of merit, James emphasizes the truth that salvation produces ministry. Read James 2:14-17. James is not saying we add deeds to our faith; he is saying our actions give evidence whether or not our faith is authentic. How does authentic faith stir us up to *do* good works? Share some examples.

3 Read Ephesians 2:8-10 and Titus 3:4-8. What you really believe is proved by how you actually behave. We are not saved by doing, but we are saved for doing. Why is this an important truth to understand in our relationship with God?

4 “DO” MATH... *Knows ≠ Does*. Read Luke 10:36-27. Growing disciples is more than gaining insights. Simply gathering people together to listen about being better does not guarantee anyone is becoming better. It is easy to be deceived into equating information with transformation. With that in mind, how do we know that someone really understands something?

5 “DO” MATH... *Do > Don’t*. Read James 1:26-27. Holiness is more than the absence of badness; it is the presence of active goodness. In what ways is following Jesus more about what you pursue than simply being about what you should avoid?

6 “DO” MATH... *Doing = Blessing*. Read Titus 3:14. Jesus said “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). James said, “They will be blessed in what they do” (James 1:25). In the upside-down economy of the kingdom of God we are enriched by investing in others. How have you seen this truth lived out in your life or someone else’s?

7 Rick closed the message by asking us this question: *So how do you do?* He also reminded us that Renew Weekend especially blesses those who did not cause the problem and cannot fix the problem but are the most vulnerable because of the problem. In addition to giving financially, what can you personally and/or our Community Group DO on a regular basis to partner with one of these ministries to help bring more of heaven into our world?