

“... pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart”
2 Timothy 2:22

January 24, 2021 - Faith or Works?

In Romans 3:28, Paul writes, “For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.” He sets faith against works in this verse. However, in Romans 1:5 and 16:25 he says his goal is to bring about “the obedience of faith,” or “the works of faith.” So...are faith and works against each other, or do they work together?

It depends on the context. Faith and works are set against each other **only** in the context of the basis, or root cause, for our salvation. Our faith in Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross is the basis for our salvation, **not** our own good works. However, if we put our faith in Jesus, does He require works of obedience? Absolutely! In that context, works **go together** with our faith. As James puts it, “Faith without works is dead” (2:26) and when Abraham sacrificed Isaac, “faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected.” (2:22)



You may be wondering, “But what if I don’t do all the right works or all the works right?” There’s no need to wonder; you won’t. I won’t. That’s why Jesus is the basis, or root cause, of our salvation! Our own works can never be that basis! This is the great news of the gospel! We can never do enough right things or enough things right to earn Heaven; we’ve already sinned and messed that up (Romans 3:23) and we’ll continue to mess up despite efforts to the contrary (1 John 1:10). We do good works because that’s our new purpose (Ephesians 2:10), but because we still sin and mess up, it’s our faith in the forgiveness of the cross that gets us to Heaven. Our faith in God’s mercy on the cross is the basis, or root cause, for our access to Heaven. Faith requires works, but praise be to God our works aren’t the basis for salvation!

Consider this illustration. Which is the basis, or root cause, for staying alive each day: our work of breathing or the fact that there’s air to breathe? It’s the fact that there’s air to breathe! Why? Because without air to breathe, our work of breathing wouldn’t do us any good! So in the context of the basis, or root cause, for life, air is the basis, not our work of breathing. We did nothing to earn or deserve or work for air at all. It’s a gift! However, in another context, like, “What do we need to do with air in order to live?” The answer is, “We’re required to breathe air in to live.” In that context, air and breathing work together to give us life!

Likewise, faith in Jesus is the basis for our salvation because without His sacrifice on the cross, our good works wouldn’t do us any good! We’re criminals sentenced to death for our sin and good works can’t reverse it. Jesus’ sacrifice is like the “air” of our spiritual life! Without it we die! We did nothing to earn or deserve or work for that sacrifice at all. It’s a gift! However, in another context, like, “What does Jesus require of us?” The answer is, “He requires us to obey Him to live.”

Someone might say, “Okay, but if salvation requires my works like living requires my breathing, it still sounds like it depends on me!” To some extent, it does! If we make a conscious decision not to breathe, we’ll die. Likewise, if we make a conscious decision to disobey Jesus, we’ll be lost. However, isn’t it true even when we’re trying to breathe, we don’t always breathe properly? Sometimes we have asthma, COPD, restrictions to the airway at night with sleep apnea, and many other breathing problems. But what’s still there? Air. The solution for breathing issues is to get us more air by hooking us up to oxygen or, in some cases, performing CPR. Our breathing is imperfect, just like our works are imperfect. Even when we try to do good works for Jesus, we don’t always do those works properly. But Jesus’ sacrifice, like air, is always there to resuscitate us when we fail.

Faith and works go together like air and breathing, but faith is the basis, or root cause, of our salvation. Not works.

Sunday Worship Services

9 a.m. Lord’s Supper Service
9:45 a.m. Bible Class
10:45 a.m. Praise & Preaching

Wednesday Bible Classes 7:30 p.m.

Elders

Herb Hinely 407-339-4805
Jeff Hunt 407-739-5266
Joe Rimmer 407-414-7393
Dave Weaver 407-782-1112
Tim Welsh 407-670-8279

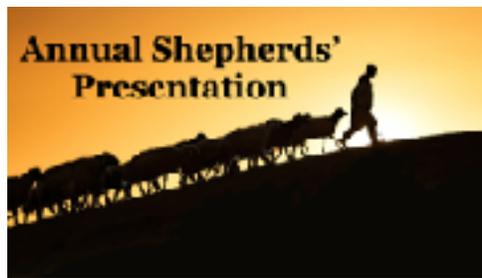
Deacons

Matt Hinely, Terry Petty
Erik Quist, Rory Salimbene
Jack Thomas, Terry Tokash
Emory VanCleeef

Evangelist

Brian Messerli 407-300-2517

620 Palm Springs Drive
Altamonte Springs
407-831-3230



1/24/21

1. 2020 Year in Review (Jeff Hunt)

- Goals
- Impacts
- Successes

2. 2020 Blessings (Dave Weaver)

- Count your blessings

3. 2021 Goals (Joe Rimmer)

* **1 John 4:19** - "We love, because He first _____."

▸ Worship Him

- **John 4:24** - "God is Spirit, and those who _____ must worship in spirit and truth."

▸ Study His Word

- **2 Timothy 2:15** - "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a worker who does not need to be ashamed, accurately _____ the word of truth."

▸ Love One Another

- **John 13:34** - "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

▸ Reach the Lost

4. Reaching the Lost (Herb Hinely)

* **Ephesians 3:10; Luke 19:10**

▸ Hopes for 2020; Plans from 2020

- Visitor Sunday, 2021 Version - Sermon, cards, chart, greeters, follow-up
- Evangelism Groups - meet monthly at the building to talk and learn about evangelism
- Online Tools - second website, updates to our website, facebook, email campaign for continued contact (**1 Corinthians 3:7**)
- Story telling with Dwayne
- Crane's Roost Park - Along with "What would you say?" emails
- House to House Heart to Heart

* The shepherds are hopeful! Let's all be hopeful and prayerful! (**Romans 15:13**)

5. Invitation (Tim Welsh)

Questions for H2H Discussion:

1. What have you learned from the events of 2020?
2. How does God bless us even in difficult times?
3. Based on what you've learned from 2020, what do you plan to do to grow and to help others grow spiritually?
4. What was your greatest spiritual frustration/challenge in 2020? What's your greatest spiritual hope/goal for 2021?

Announcements

Sunday, January 24th, 2021

Please email all new announcements to announcements@psd.church.

SICK/HEALTH ISSUES:

- **Jared Morton** has COVID-19. He was feeling worse every day until yesterday, when he started feeling slightly better. Ann and the children are doing fine.
- **Geny Harrison** broke her right hip. Had hip replacement at AdventHealth Orlando. Now in room 10205.
- **Rodney Rubright** has been experiencing sores from MRSA, but they're getting less painful now.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF PSD:

- **Carmen Gonzalez' husband, Luis**, contracted COVID-19.
- **Gary Richards, a friend of the Hinely family** and member of the church of Christ in Port St. Lucie, has been diagnosed with Stage 4 Colon Cancer. Cards may be sent to 35555 NE 7th Dr, Okeechobee FL 34972.
- **Cynthia Vanlandingham's aunt, Kathryn White**, has COVID-19. She is 94.
- **Cynthia Vanlandingham's friend, Angie, has another brother, John**, that now has COVID-19.
- **Tina Margroff, friend of Patsy Holt** and member of the Clermont church of Christ, is having surgical procedures for the Sepsis in her legs and is in a lot of pain. One of her legs may need to be amputated.

TRAVELING:

- **The Quist family** is in Atlanta.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **The funeral for Dave Hunt** will be this Saturday, January 30th: visitation at 1:00, service at 1:30 at the Trenton church of Christ.
- **H2H** starts this week and ends in the first week in March.

SHUT-IN:

- **Anne Dickson**
- **Geny Harrison**
- **Peggy Hunt**
- **Bea Deboe**
- **Thurman and Lynna Davis**
- **Patsy Holt**
- **Pat Steele**

SPECIAL CONCERNS ABOUT GETTING COVID:

- **Carol Van Cleef**
- **Diane Thyben**
- **Mary Ann Rubright**
- **Anna Marcotte**



Where Was Jesus? Word Search

Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle. The words can be left to right, up and down, or diagonally.

P I S I T N U L L A F A C P D
A N T G G L J E R U S A L E M
S O R E R S E C T E M D I O O
S U L L A M C J N S E Q U P S
O O N S E Q U I O C I L L L N
V R E F A T H E R S I R I E R
E A O R E M O L O R E I T E T
R U M I N E N D R E T P T V E
I T Q U E S T I O N S S H O M
T I O N S E D E U G I A M V P
L M A R Y A T E A C H E R S L
T U E D O R O R E D E L I Q E
Z R I T E C F E U G A I T V U
L A O R E H F E S T I V A L R
T W E L V E N D R E T A T V E

FATHER
FESTIVAL
JERUSALEM

JOSEPH
MARY
PASSEVER

PEOPLE
QUESTIONS
SEARCH

TEACHERS
TEMPLE
TWELVE