

Family Sunday Devotional

Real Faith or Just Christian'ish?

As we enter this Memorial Day weekend, we pause to remember those who gave their lives in service to our country—and we also take this Sunday as a moment to step out of our normal rhythm. It's a time to slow down, rest, and refocus our hearts on what truly matters. In the quiet, we have the space to ask honest questions about our faith and the kind of life we're really living.

It's one thing to *call* ourselves Christians—it's another to *actually live* like Christ. The Book of James doesn't hold back on this point. *"But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves"* (James 1:22, NLT). If our faith doesn't lead to action, we're just pretending.

Jesus asked a question in Luke 6:46 that still hits hard today: *"So why do you keep calling me 'Lord, Lord!' when you don't do what I say?"* It's easy to claim Jesus with our words but ignore Him with our choices. We can sing, serve, and even quote Scripture—yet still resist full obedience.

That's what this series, **Christian'ish**, is all about. It's about recognizing where we've settled for a version of faith that's cultural, comfortable, and casual. Paul warns about this in 2 Timothy 3:5, describing people who *"will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly."* That's what it means to be Christian'ish: to appear spiritual without living surrendered.

James offers more than just a warning—he offers a vision of what authentic faith looks like. It's not flashy or performative. It's humble, consistent, and visible in everyday life. Real faith cares for the vulnerable, keeps a tight rein on the tongue, and refuses to blend into the brokenness of the world (see James 1:27). It's gritty, costly, and deeply worth it.

So take a moment today and ask: Where have I become Christian'ish? Where have I stopped short of living out the faith I claim? Let's not settle for appearances. Let's let Christ change us from the inside out.

Challenge:

This week, let's ask the Holy Spirit to guide us into a faith that's real, bold, and outward-facing. Look for moments to live out your faith in ways that reveal who God really is—a Father who longs to see lost people come home. Whether it's through an act of compassion, a word of truth, or simply slowing down to see someone others overlook, be a reflection of the love that rescued you. Let's not just say we follow Jesus—let's *show* it in how we live and love.

Prayer:

Jesus, I don't want a version of faith that just looks good—I want one that's real. Show me where I've become Christian'ish. Give me courage to obey You fully and live in a way that reflects Your heart. Amen.