



# JAMES

COUNTERFEIT FAITH

FAMILY  
DEVOTIONAL



FAMILIES

# COUNTERFEIT FAITH – WEEK 1



Read these scriptures as a family. James 1:22-25; James 2:14-17 and James 3:13. Every person can live an authentic faith by living out their faith. Showing that their faith is authentic and not counterfeit.

## Discussion for the Family

1. What does it mean for something to be authentic?
2. What does it mean for something to be Counterfeit?
3. What does an authentic faith look like?
4. What does an counterfeit faith look like?
5. How would someone know you have an authentic faith?

## PARENTS

Pray that your children will learn to live an authentic faith. Pray that you will be an example of what authentic faith should look like.

## Notes:

# COUNTERFEIT FAITH – WEEK 2



**Read these scriptures as a family.**  
**James 1:19-21, 1 Timothy 2:1-3**

## **Discussion for the Family**

1. How can you practice being quick to hear?
2. How can you practice being slow to speak?
3. How can you practice being slow to anger?
4. How can doing these things show others that you have an authentic faith?

## **PARENTS**

**Take time as a family to pray for those in leadership in our country, in our communities, and in our church. It maybe helpful to have a list of names to specifically pray for while you do this.**

## **Notes:**

# COUNTERFEIT FAITH – WEEK 3



Read James 4:3-6; Matthew 6:19-21 as a family. How we pray is important. It is important that we pray to grow closer to God not to gain something for ourselves. Forgiveness is an important part of living an authentic faith. Because we are forgiven by God, we need to work toward forgiving others and forgiving yourself.

## Discussion for the Family

1. When you pray, do you pray with God in mind or yourself?
2. Who or what are your treasures?
3. What does it mean to forgive?
4. Who do you need to forgive?

## PARENTS

Pray with each of your children sometime during the week. Bedtime is a perfect time to pray with your kids. Take turns praying a simple pray to God. It doesn't have to be perfect, just talk to God.

## Notes:

# COUNTERFEIT FAITH – WEEK 4



**Read James 2: 14-22; Matthew 14:22-23; John 11:6**  
**If we say we have faith but do nothing, then we are living a counterfeit faith. These verses teach us that authentic faith comes when we do works for God. God wants us to have balance so that we are not doing more than being. The practice of balancing BEING with God before DOING for God is key to an authentic faith.**

## **Discussion for the Family**

1. What are you currently doing for God?
2. How are you currently spending time or being with God?
3. How can you do better at both of these things?
4. What is one thing you are going to try to do to help balancing these things?

## **PARENTS**

**Practice DOING as a family. Take a look at our Share Partners on our website. Consider contacting one of them and seeing how you can serve as a family. There are many opportunities in your community you could serve over the summer. Do it as a family for God!**

## **Notes:**

# COUNTERFEIT FAITH – WEEK 5



Read James 3:2-5,10; Proverbs 18: 21 as a family. James is warning us that we need to learn to control our words and desires. James tells us, we won't be perfect and we will stumble but our goal is to become mature and authentic--able to control your speech and bodies which will begin to help us reveal our authentic faith.

## Discussion for the Family

1. What is time you said something that you wished you could take back?
2. Are you more like a flame thrower or a campfire?
3. Why does controlling your words and desires help to show others your faith?
4. What is one thing you are going to start doing now, to control your words and desires?

## PARENTS

Build a campfire and sit around the family while making smores as a family. If you feel comfortable, sing a song or two to God while sitting around the fire. (Use your cell phone to play a song to sing along with)

## Notes:

# COUNTERFEIT FAITH – WEEK 6



**Read James 1:1-4;12 as a family. We all face trials and hardships. When we do, they reveal parts of our faith as authentic or counterfeit. In trials we have an opportunity to gain true treasures of knowing and becoming like Jesus. We come to know, really know, God. We become refined---while growing our faith in the process.**

## **Discussion for the Family**

1. What are some trials you have gone through?
2. During your trials, was your faith authentic or counterfeit?
3. What are some things you learned from going through your trials?
4. How can you support someone who is going through trials right now?

## **PARENTS**

Take some time as a family to make (or buy), write and send encouraging cards to those that you know are going through trials write now. If you can't think of anyone, consider sending cards to soldiers or those in the retirement communities. Pray for each person before you put the cards in the mailbox.

## **Notes:**

## **FAMILY GUIDE**

This family discussion guide is designed to create conversations about what we are learning at church and in our own spiritual growth. Use this guide around the dinner table, on the go, or even after you attend church.

This is a tool to help you incorporate spiritual practices into your lives and help you grow spiritually as a family.

