James 2:14-24 (NRSV)

14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? 15 If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? 17 So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

18 But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith. 19 You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder. 20 Do you want to be shown, you senseless person, that faith apart from works is barren? 21 Was not our ancestor Abraham justified by works when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? 22 You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was brought to completion by the works. 23 Thus the scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,” and he was called the friend of God. 24 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

Memory Verse for This Month:
“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” — Romans 5:8

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NO CLASS NEXT WEEK — NOVEMBER 23
Saint Paul, by Philippe de Champaigne (1602-1674)
What Makes Uncircumcised Abraham Righteous? (v.1-3)  
Justified by Works? (see back cover)  
Justified by Belief?  
What About Boasting?

What About Wicked & Circumcised? (v.4-8)  
Getting the Equation Right  
Works = Wages = No Gift  
Belief = Ungodly = Gift  
Example of David  
Adulterer  
Murderer  
Liar

What About Uncircumcised Gentiles? (v.9-12)  
Who Gets the Blessing?  
What Does the “Sign” Mean?  
What Are Our “Signs”?  
So...Who Are His Children?  
How to Get the Inheritance

What Does That Mean? (v.13-15)  
How to Nullify the Contract  
Law vs. Lawlessness