



*“So there are two parts of Christian teaching that we must emphasize for Christians daily. Neither faith nor works can be ignored. For when faith isn’t preached – when no one explains how we are joined to Christ and*

*become branches in him – then everyone resorts to their own works. On the other hand, if we teach only about faith, it leads to false Christians. These people praise faith, are baptized, and even call themselves Christians, but they don’t show any fruit or power.*

*“That’s why it’s so difficult to preach. No matter how I preach, something goes wrong. Someone always goes off on a tangent. If I don’t preach about faith, the result will be useless and hypocritical works. If I only emphasized faith, no one does any good works. The result is either useless, faithless do-gooders or believers who don’t do any good works. So we must preach the message to those who accept both faith and works. We must preach to those who want to remain in the vine, put their trust in Christ, and put their faith into action in their everyday lives.”*

Martin Luther, from a sermon on John 15:10