



Real Relationship Small Group Questions James 2:1-13 August 17

Community

- If you were a potato, what way would you like to be cooked?
- What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.
- What is one thing you would do differently this week as a result of this message?

Core: Read James 2:1-13

1. According to James 2:1 who is James writing?
2. How would you define partiality and favoritism?
3. Do you consider yourself to generally make a good first impression? Do you think you've ever been a victim of a snap impression? How did you feel? Why is avoiding a "snap impression" so important in the church?
4. Can you be a person of faith and show favoritism? Why? Why not?

5. Do you think there is favoritism at play in the world today? What about in the church? Who might the well-dressed man and the poor man be in our society today?
6. How would our church respond if a poor person who was dressed badly and dirty, came to your services? How would they be treated? How does God say for us to treat them? What can we do as a church to make sure that we don't play favorites?
7. What command does James describe as the "royal law?" What do you think he means by that description? What relationship do you see between this law and the teachings of James about favoritism?
8. James mentions two of the ten commandments when referencing partiality in verses 9-11. Which commandments does he mention? Why do you think he chooses those two commandments? If you were ranking murder, adultery and favoritism which do you think is the least serious, why? Why is favoritism or prejudice often overlooked as a sin?
9. How does the law of Christ give us freedom?
10. What does James mean when he says, "mercy triumphs over judgement?" Name some ways that God has shown you mercy. What are some practical ways that you can allow this awareness of God's mercy to shape the way you treat others?

Make sure to spend some time in prayer as a group