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LIFEGroup Discussion Questions

Table Talk: Acknowledging and Loving All People

James 2:1-13

March 5, 2017

Text: My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism. 2 For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes, 3 and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, "You sit here in a good place," and you say to the poor man, "You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool," 4 have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives? 5 Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him? 6 But you have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you and personally drag you into court? 7 Do they not blaspheme the fair name by which you have been called? 8 If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you are doing well. 9 But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. 10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all. 11 For He who said, "DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY," also said, "DO NOT COMMIT MURDER." Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. 12 So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. 13 For judgment will be merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

- 1. Ask your LIFEgroup to share a time when they felt slighted, maybe even shamed, belittled or left out as an odd person. How did that feel? Compare that to what James says in verse 1.**
- 2. In what ways might we be guilty of showing personal favoritism?**
- 3. Rebuke is the word the Bible uses for bringing truth to where change is needed. Other words are reprove or correct or convict. Why do most of us not respond well to rebuke. How are we to give rebuke?**
- 4. The people are interest in this chapter are not the rich man nor the poor men. It's us! What do you think of these statements? "Transformation of our heart is never about other people or what they did or didn't do. It's never about the situation we are in. It's about us and our reaction to the situation and our response to people."**
- 5. In what ways did, "God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him"?**
- 6. Who can you show mercy to this week? Try to name a name and let your LIFEgroup hold you accountable to contacting and loving that person.**
- 7. Dismiss your LIFEgroup's personal ministry to people on your Soul Care list. In light of these verse, what are the next steps for your LIFEgroup to take regarding this members?**