

7. What does the example in verses 2-4 reveal about the values of the church when favoritism is present?
8. Why does James highlight God's choice of the poor in verse 5? How does this reflect God's character and kingdom values?
9. How does this passage challenge the cultural norms of James' time and of ours today?

LIVE IT - How should this change the way I live?

10. Where are you most tempted to show favoritism (in church, at work, or in social settings)? And why?
11. How do your instincts toward people reveal what you value: status, appearance, or Christ?
12. How can your daily choices (where you sit, who you greet, who you invite) demonstrate that your faith is in Christ, not in worldly status?

FAITH WITHOUT FAVORITES

JAMES 2:1-7

*real faith doesn't **play favorites**;
it **welcomes** like Jesus.*

FAITH WITHOUT FAVORITES

JAMES 2:1-7

I. THE COMMAND (v. 1)

Favoritism has _____ in a faith that follows Jesus.

THE ROOT ISSUE: This is not just social etiquette; it's a _____ problem.

LIVE IT OUT:

Humble yourself, as Christ humbled Himself for us.

II. THE EXAMPLE (vv. 2-4)

_____ issue.

_____ (cultural) issue.

"Don't let those systems creep into the church."

FAVORITISM VIEWS PEOPLE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE WORLD, NOT THROUGH THE LENS OF CHRIST.

LIVE IT OUT:

Don't see people as the world sees them; see them as Christ does.

III. THE THEOLOGICAL HEART (v. 5)

James isn't _____; he's shepherding.

God delights to pour out His blessings on those the world _____.

God flips the world's _____ upside down.

Love for _____, not worldly credentials, is the mark of true heirs.

LIVE IT OUT:

The world sees status; God sees sons and daughters.

IV. THE REBUKE & CONSEQUENCES (vv. 6-7)

THE REBUKE: Showing favoritism to the rich _____ dishonors the poor.

THE IRONY: Favoritism is not only unloving, it's _____.

THE SPIRITUAL OFFENSE: Favoritism elevates those who _____ Christ's name while degrading those Christ died for.

LIVE IT OUT:

Don't dishonor the ones Christ honors; treat every person with the dignity of His name.

#5 DIVE DEEPER STUDY QUESTIONS

JAMES 2:1-7

1. What stuck out the most to you from this week's message?

SEE IT - What do you notice about this passage?

2. Why does James give this command in verse 1?

3. What does James say the church has become when they show this kind of favoritism (v. 4)?

4. According to verse 5, who does God choose to be "rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom"?

5. What rebuke does James give in verses 6-7 about the irony of honoring the rich?

BELIEVE IT - What does this passage mean?

6. Why is favoritism incompatible with "faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ" (v. 1)?