



## 1. Real faith includes OTHERS.

<sup>1</sup> My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. – **James 2:1**

## 2. Real faith VALUES everyone.

<sup>3</sup> If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes... <sup>4</sup> have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? – **James 2:3a,4**

## 3. Real faith is not just something you SAY.

<sup>14</sup> What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? – **James 2:14**

## 4. Real faith is not just something you FEEL.

## 5. Real faith cares for OTHERS.

<sup>15</sup> Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. <sup>16</sup> If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? – **James 2:15-16**

## 6. Real faith is VISIBLE.

<sup>18</sup> But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." – **James 2:18**

## 7. Real faith is not just something you BELIEVE.

<sup>19</sup> You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder. – **James 2:19**

## 8. Real faith is something you DO.

<sup>22</sup> You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. – **James 2:22**

# DIGGING DEEPER

## JAMES 2:1-26

- How is James's warning against favoritism (v. 1-9) connected to his preceding statement in **James 1:27**?
- In what ways do we show favoritism in our culture? More personally, in what ways do you show favoritism in how you treat others?
- Why is showing favoritism indicative of having "evil motives" (v. 4)?
- This entire chapter mirrors part of Jesus's Sermon on the Mount recorded in **Matthew 7:1-27**, with both similar topics and structure. In the beginning of each is a warning against judging others. What does the warning in **Matthew 7:1-2** mean and how does it relate to James's warning against favoritism (v. 1-9)?
- Read **2 John 1:10-11**, **Acts 17:11**, and **John 7:24**. What types of judgements (by us) are encouraged (or even commanded) in the Bible?
- James commands us to "speak and act as those who will be judged by a law that gives freedom" (v. 12). What is this kind of law? How can we speak and act according to this law (see **Galatians 6:2**)?
- **Galatians 5:13** says that we were "called to freedom." Based on the rest of that chapter (especially **Galatians 5:18** and **Galatians 5:22-25**), what does this call to freedom mean for how we think, speak, and act? How does this connect with the discussion of faith and works in **James 2:14-19**?