



September 15-16, 2018
Life Hacks: Valuing Everybody
Dr. Kurt Bjorklund

MESSAGE NOTES:

James 2:1-13

Revisit last week's "Respond/Reinforce" section of the Study Guide. Which truth from last week's study, or the message, did you attempt to live out? Share with the group about how it went.

STUDY GUIDE:

Reference:

Open in prayer and read James 2:1-13.

Review: What was one thing from this weekend's message that challenged, confused, or stood out to you?

Reflect:

1. What experiences have you had with poverty, either second-hand or first-hand? Has it changed you in any way?

2. Verse 9 clearly labels favoritism as sin. Why do we show favoritism to those who possess wealth, power, and/or fame? What does this say about the condition of our souls?

3. Historically, the Gospel message has great appeal to those who are oppressed or disadvantaged. What about the Gospel message is attractive to those in challenging circumstances?

4. Read 1 Samuel 16:7. How do you see this verse connecting with this week's passage? In what ways does this passage encourage you? In what ways does it lead you to check your heart?

5. In the context of James 2:12-13, what do you think it means that "Mercy triumphs over judgment"? In light of God's grace, what are some ways we can live out this truth in our communities?

6. Consider Matthew 25:31-46. Why do you think God favors the weak, the disadvantaged, and the marginal? Discuss the ways you could "love your neighbor as yourself" (James 2:8).

Respond/Reinforce:

Pay attention to yourself this week and watch for situation(s) that tempt you to show favoritism (e.g. work, event, dinner meeting). Intentionally seek to not show favoritism and see how God works.