



Wisdom's Ways

THE WORDS OF JAMES

Favoritism's Failings

The way of justice is blind to status.

SERIES SUMMARY

Before Jesus' death and resurrection, His siblings had their doubts. What sibling wouldn't, right?! Yet His brother James became a pillar of the early church and a teacher whose words still shape disciples today.

His letter is blunt yet brimming with practical wisdom, calling us to embrace joy in trials, reject favoritism, put faith into action, guard our words, and walk humbly with God.

Through this series, the words of James will help us uncover *Wisdom's Ways* for following Jesus here and now.

ICEBREAKER

Let's be real, did your parents have a favorite child?

SCRIPTURE

Read the following wisdom literature:

- Psalm 82:2-4
- Proverbs 22:2
- Job 34:19



LEARNING FROM HIS STORY

1. Why do you think God hates favoritism so much?
2. What are the implications for us of the fact that “the Lord is the maker of all of them” (Proverbs 22:2)?
3. Where do you tend to this kind of thing play out in our day?

EXAMINING OUR OWN STORY

4. How have you benefited or been harmed by someone’s favoritism?
5. What are the temptations toward favoritism that you most easily fall prey to (at home or work or church or...)?
6. What are the motivators that drives us to show partiality to “important” people?

WRITING A NEW STORY

7. What does a church or even a small group like ours need to guard against with this?
8. How can we do a better job of showing up for those that culture sees as less important?
9. What are some ways we can check our hearts in this from time to time?

TAKING TIME TO PRAY

Heavenly Father, thank you for looking at our hearts and not our resumes. Thank you for giving of your grace to us all. Teach us to do the same!

