

Practically Disciples: The Letter of James | Wk 5 | 8/23/2020

A Seattle Church: [@ASeattleChurch](#) | Pastor Christian Dawson: [@christiangdawson](#)

WARM-UP: Engage (“Together”)

1. If you could have any hair style/ color/ shape what would it be?
2. Is there a story behind your name: how you got it, is the meaning significant, or a funny story about your name being said or mispronounced?

WORD: Establish (“Truth”)

Leader: Questions below should allow for quick responses, evident by close reading of the text. Choose to use some or all of them (pending pace), as reading of the passage(s) will answer them as well.

- **Sermon Recap (if helpful):** Pastor Christian invited us to look closely at James 2:1-13 and how God is calling us to not show partiality to those who can help us get ahead or preserve what we have. How God is inviting us to see that there are no 2nd-class citizens in God's kingdom, and all deserve equal honor as God's image-bearers. To look in the mirror and see how our Seattleite idol of “upward mobility” often makes us choose to “despise the poor” in our midst who have “nothing to offer us.” How God is calling us to love our neighbor like Christ first loved us. Not because we deserved it but because that is the nature of God. King Jesus’ desires that we honor everyone.

Read James 2:1-13

If helpful read in three chunks (vv 1-4, 5-7, 8-13). Questions follow this breakdown.

Read vv 1-4

- a. What is the scenario of favoritism James is addressing?

Read vv 5-7

- b. What is the relationship between poor and rich James unpacks?

Read vv 8-13

- c. What is the standard of keeping the Law according to James?
- d. What is the power of mercy in this section of scripture?

- **Concept/Passage for Deeper Study:** How the word: “partiality” (prosopolempsia), is also about God in Romans 2:11, Ephesians 6:9, Colossians 3:25, compared to James 2:1.

APPLICATION: Equip (“Way”)

1. Where in your life are you showing favoritism/ making someone or people second class citizens? Is it because of race, socio-economics, political views, ways of thinking of viewing the world, upward mobility, popularity, etc? How can you start moving in the opposite spirit and show love in that space?
2. From what we read in James, what is challenging you to live a different life? How can you start living into that?

PRAYER Empower (“Life” in the Spirit)

1. Can we pray for the place that favoritisms has a hold of you?
2. Do you have a specific prayer request?

COMMUNION Together

Lead your group in communion in a way that feels right.

- If needed, 1 Corinthians 11:23-27
 - **23** ...that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, **24** and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” **25** In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” **26** For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS at ASC

1. **All-Church (Physically Distant) Social Gathering:** Thursday, Sep 3rd at 6PM at South Lake Union Park (by MOHAI). Bring your mask, yourself, and friends (who attend ASC or don't yet) for simple time to be together as a church. We can't wait to see you. We will take all safety measures, but the only programming is to be together.
2. **All-Church Prayer Call on Wednesday's from 1230-1pm each week.**
1-253-215-8782, 86546382360#
3. Next Week, Please **INVITE A FRIEND** to join us online for week 6 of our new series **Practically Disciples The Book of James**. Share with your [social media](#) communities, engage our channels during the gathering to help others do so as well
4. If you haven't yet, **Sign up for ASC Newsletter Weekly Updates [HERE](#).**
5. Finally, if you are processing these reflection questions individually and aren't yet in an **ASC Small Group, we'd love to help you connect with a group to go deeper in Jesus.** You can do so by going to aseattlechurch.com/groups or emailing Candace + Aaron at groups@aseattlechurch.com.