

## James study guide – Week 2

### Day 1 – Read James 2:1-7

In this passage, James builds on his previous theme that our actions should reflect our faith (see James 1:19-27). Here, he points out our flawed tendency to favor material wealth.

- Why is it so easy for us to gravitate toward those we believe have something to offer?
- Take some time to reflect on this and ask God how He would have us act differently as His followers.

### Day 2 – Reflect back on James 2:1-7

In verse 5, James asks a very important question of those who struggle with favoritism. He reminds us that the Kingdom of God belongs to the poor (Luke 6:20).

- When we look at people through God's eyes, instead of the world's, what happens to their worth?
- What would our lives look like if we began to value people more than what they have to offer?

### Day 3 – Read James 2:8-13

James reminds us that when we show favoritism, we are not loving our neighbor; we are actually judging them and breaking God's law! However, just as God has shown mercy to us, we are to show mercy to others.

- Take a moment to reflect on what God's mercy means in your life. What do you deserve? What have you received?
- How should this shape our treatment of others?

### Day 4 – Read James 2:14-19

After his example of favoritism, James returns to the theme of our actions reflecting our faith.

- Why does James say that faith without action is dead?
- What do our actions reveal about what we really believe?

### Day 5 – Reflect back on James 2:14-19

In verse 19, James passionately points out the difference between knowledge and faith.

- Can we know all about God without truly knowing him?
- Is your belief in God an intellectual exercise or is it a living relationship? What would your actions reveal?

### Day 6 – Read James 2:20-26

In this passage, James gives us 2 examples of true faith. The 1<sup>st</sup> is Abraham. Read Genesis 22:1-12 & Hebrews 11:17-19.

- How did Abraham's life reflect his faith in God?
- How does your life reflect your faith in God?

### Day 7 – Reflect on James 2:20-26

The 2<sup>nd</sup> example of true faith James gives us is Rahab. Read Joshua 2 & Hebrews 11:31. It is interesting that James speaks against favoritism and judging and then uses Rahab as an example of true faith.

- Who are the Rahabs in our lives?
- How does James' example change how we view them or ourselves?