

No Favorites, Please!

James 2:1-13

The Exhortation – Don't show _____ Vs. 1

It's okay to have favorites with regard to _____, but don't show favoritism with regard to _____.

The Example – How do we treat a new _____ in the church? Vss. 2 - 4

Four assertions on how we deal with the rich and poor:

1. God loves the poor more because they are rich _____.
2. The wealthy are the very ones who _____ us.
3. The wealthy will drag us into _____.
4. The wealthy tend to _____ Jesus.

The Explanation – Favoritism breaks God's _____ Vss. 5 - 9

Favoritism is not just a _____ problem, but a _____ problem.

"We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen."
1 John 4:19-20,

The Effort – Treat all with _____. Vss. 10 – 13

Application

Partiality is seen in two distinct ways:

- Subtle R_____
- Unintentional C_____.

Questions for Discussion

- Did you grow up with parents who showed a favorite among you and your siblings? How did you feel?
- You may not consider yourself to be racist or classist (none of us do), but has there ever been an incident that occurred in the past that may indicate a bias? Talk about it.
- How would you feel if your child(ren) decided to marry outside of your race or class? Would you have an issue? Why or why not?
- How can we at Journey of Faith be more open to embracing all people?