

JAMES

FAITH WORKS

Love Crowds Out Favoritism

Discussion Guide
February 17, 2019
James 2:1-13

Questions for Study

**Before you begin, please read James 2:1-13 as a group.

1. What are some ways we can be tempted to show favoritism - maybe even unintentionally?
2. Why is favoritism so harmful?
3. In James 2:1, James describes Jesus as "our **glorious Lord** Jesus Christ." How does focusing on Jesus' glory and greatness protect us from treating others around us with favoritism?
4. What other reasons does James provide, helping us see why followers of Jesus shouldn't show favoritism? (Hint: Look especially at verses 5-7, 8-9, 12-13.)
5. Further explain how the truth of the gospel itself - the good news of Jesus humbling himself to come to earth and die for our sins (see Philippians 2:5-11) - works against the notion of favoritism. (It may be helpful to think of the question this way: "In what ways are the gospel and favoritism incompatible with each other?")
6. Read the following passages of Scripture. Share specific ways each one reinforces what you read in James 2:1-13:
 - John 13:34-35
 - Romans 12:16
 - 1 Peter 3:8
 - 1 John 3:10-11
7. From everything you've read and discussed so far, what would you say is the opposite of favoritism? (If favoritism is what we're to be avoiding, what virtues should we be pursuing?)
8. How can you model the love, humility, and acceptance of others that this passage promotes?
9. What specific steps of obedience can you take this coming week, to apply what you've learned in James 2:1-13?
10. Challenge: Memorize Romans 12:16: "Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited."