

Favoritism Forbidden - James 2:1-13

Topics: Change, Differences, Equality, Favoritism, Judging Others, Poor, Prejudice, Status

Open It

- * 1. How much money would it take to make you consider yourself rich?
- 2. For what reasons might a person think he or she is more important than another person?
- 3. Where do you see prejudice being practiced?

Explore It

- 4. What practical example did James use to illustrate how favoritism was practiced in the church? (2:1-4)
- * 5. What has God promised to the poor of this world? (2:5)
- * 6. What does the church do to the poor person when it shows favoritism toward the rich? (2:6)
- * 7. What do rich people have a history of doing to people in the church? (2:6-7)
- 8. What is the royal law found in Scripture? (2:8)
- 9. What does practicing favoritism do to a person who is trying to keep the law? (2:9)
- 10. What does a person have to do to be considered a lawbreaker? (2:10-11)
- 11. By what standards should a person speak and act? (2:12)
- 12. What promise is made to people who judge without mercy? (2:13)
- 13. Why should we be merciful? (2:13)

Get It

- 14. In what ways have you been a victim of favoritism or prejudice?
- 15. How have you shown favoritism or prejudice toward other people?
- 16. Why do we often treat rich people as more important than poor people?
- 17. How do we use physical appearance, job status, and athletic ability to show favoritism toward people?
- * 18. How can we welcome poor people in our church?
- 19. Why does God have a special concern for poor people?
- * 20. In what practical ways can we show genuine love to people of different races, cultures, and economic standing?
- 21. Why is favoritism or prejudice often overlooked as a sin?
- 22. Why would God condemn us as lawbreakers if our sins are only "minor" ones, such as prejudice?

Apply It

- 23. From whom can you ask forgiveness this week for showing prejudice toward him or her?
- * 24. How can you change the way you look at wealth this week so that you value it as God does?