

Sermon: Rejecting Partiality and Embracing Glory.
Series: *James: Real Wisdom, Real Faith.*

Scripture: James 2:1-7.
Date: October 24, 2021

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1) What does this passage teach us about God?

a) Read these passages about the impartiality of God – Dt. 10:17; Job 34:19; Acts 10:34; Rom. 2:11; Eph. 6:9. Why is it so important that God be impartial? How would it change the gospel if he were not impartial?

2) What does this passage teach us about us?

a) In what ways are you tempted to show partiality (favoritism)? Are there any ways that you have tried to gain status by who you associate with (or don't associate with)?

b) James calls partiality "evil" because it is an attempt to steal glory from Christ. In what way does showing partiality a form of self-made glory (as opposed to glory received from God)?

3) What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) See 2 Corinthians 4:6. How does glory received from Christ cure us of our partiality? Are you seeing this gospel truth at work in your own heart? In what way?

APPLICATION

a) What is one way you can reach out intentionally to someone who is different from you this week? OR...how might you promote unity around you (at home, work, church)?

b) Are there any ways that you can think of that Grace Baptist Church could work harder to end partiality by God's grace?

FIGHTER VERSES: James 2:14-17.

PRAYER

- Praise God for his impartial salvation.
- Confess ways that you have shown favoritism to others.
- Ask God to help you to receive the glory of Christ and thus cure your heart of partiality.
- Commit to loving and respecting all others equally.