

LOVE EACH OTHER EQUALLY
JAMES 2:1-13

Chi Alpha
Lifegroup Guide
James

PRE LG TEXT
MESSAGE QUESTIONS

What is favoritism? Do you feel like favoritism is a large part of society today?

This is what we'll be discussing at Lifegroup tonight as we continue our study on the book of James.

SCRIPTURE
MEMORIZATION

James 2:12-13

10N1 FOLLOW UP

When you look at your LG (if you're a leader), or your friends (not a LG leader), do you feel as though you have a "type" of people you surround yourself with? If so, what practical step can you take to surround yourself with people who are different from you?

OVERVIEW

The following video by The Bible Project gives a great overview of the book of James: <https://youtu.be/qn-hLHWwRYY>

INTRODUCTION

- Do you have a "type" of friends? Or are all of your friends similar to each other?
- Have you ever been in a situation where you feel like there was favoritism and you weren't included? How did it make you feel?

James 2:1-4

- If you're being honest, have you ever seen someone's appearance and automatically made some type of judgment or assumption about them?
- What does God think about negative judgment and assumptions among brothers and sisters in Christ? (Later look at verses 8-9. God says to love your neighbor as yourself [you'll only think good of yourself most times], and he says that if you show favoritism, then you are sinning.)

James 2:5-7

- How do you think Jesus reacted to the poor? How did he behave around them? (He healed them the same, he gave them food, he taught them the same as others, he paid a lot of attention to them, etc.)
- How do we respond to those who we see as "less" than us? (Financially, spiritually, maturity, etc.)

SAY SOMETHING LIKE: *Oftentimes we tend to flock towards those who are similar to us, but Jesus searched for the outcasts and push-offs of society. This should drive us to act in the same way. The world will ignore those who are "less than," but we as believers must flock towards those people and show them Christ-like love.*

James 2:8-13

- Do you love yourself? How do you treat yourself because of the fact that you love yourself?
- Does this love pour over in the way you love others? Do you show them patience, give them the benefit of the doubt, see their heart versus their actions, etc?

SAY SOMETHING LIKE: *One of the most unique characteristics that we possess as Christians is our ability to love people. We live in a world where love is conditional, easily taken away, and only given to those who are "pleasant" or "favorable" in our opinion. But Christ loved people no matter where they were. He treated them all equally and in a manner that honored the fact that they were human beings. He corrected and taught against sin, but did not do it in a way that was judgmental or condemning.*

APPLICATION

- Who is someone in your life (classmate, coworker, acquaintance, etc.) who doesn't seem to be "pleasant" or "favorable" by the world's standards? (Don't answer out loud.)
- How can you show them the love of Jesus this week?

