

Lesson 5 – Treating People Right (Tip: Bring your sermon notes to the Bible study)

Question to Ponder (Self Reflection): How do I treat others?

Big Idea: Loving others because God loves you.

Memory Verse: "My dear brothers and sisters, how can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ if you favor some people over others?" James 2:1

CONNECT

As a child, who was the meanest person you knew?

Who has loved you more than anyone else in your life other than God?

MESSAGE REVIEW

What point or points from this weekend's message had the biggest impact on you and why?

ENGAGE

How are you sometimes guilty of favoritism?

If I'm honest, I sometimes find myself thinking more highly of those who are...

___ wealthy

- well dressed (however I define that!)
- ___ successful
- ___ famous
- ___ good-looking
- ____ religious or life-style differences

- ___ in certain professions
- ___ younger
- __ older
- ____ ethnically like or unlike me
- __ poor
- ___ other

Now take the quiz again, only this time: "If I'm honest, I sometimes think **less** of people who are..."

Read James 2:1-11 (Have each person read a couple of verses from their Bible).

When have you been shown favoritism or been discriminated against?

Why do you think God dislikes favoritism?

How can favoritism be subtle?

Reread James 2: 8-11.

What does James say is the antidote for favoritism?

In what areas of *subtle* sin do you struggle-- perhaps not in the "big" sins, but in the more subtle areas like prejudice, lack of compassion, judgmental attitude, etc.?

APPLY

What does applying "loving your neighbor as yourself" look like in the everyday activities of your life (spouse, kids, co-workers, fellow students, etc.)?

Where do you specifically need to be more loving? What is the next right step you need to take this week in order to do so?

CHECKING IN

How are you doing on last week's Apply question?

PRAY

Ask God to make you more like Christ, who was not a "respecter of persons".