



**Series** Life Tools

**Passage** James 2:1-26

**Title** Faith Removes Discrimination

**Speaker:** Dave Menard 06/18/2017

- **Discussion Starter:** What are some of the ways your faith has enabled you to be less discriminating with people? How has this week's sermon caused you to look at how God might be calling you to grow in your faith as it pertains to how you look at and judge others?

**Do Not Judge by Appearance** (James 2:1-5; Matthew 5:3; Isaiah 61:1)

- James is writing to an economically depressed community. Why would favoritism be a problem in this setting? How is the warning of favoritism linked to the "evil thoughts" mentioned in James 2:4?
- What are the truths that we are blinded to when we judge by appearance?

**Love Without Partiality to Status** (James 2:6-11; Romans 2:11, 3:23, 5:8; Matthew 19:23-26, 22:16)

- What examples do what have in the scripture references above that show us how we should love without partiality to status?
- What are some of the disadvantages of being wealthy that the poor never have to contend with?

**Partiality Reveals that We Have a Judging Heart and a Selfish Motive** (James 2:12-16; Matthew 25:41-46)

- What type of partiality are we being warned of in James 2:12-16?
- Explain in your own words what it means to us as Christians to be judged by the law of liberty?
- How are we to interpret the role that mercy has on revealing our true heart and faith?

**Partiality Blinds Us to God's Will** (James 2:17-27; Matthew 3:4-10)

- The Pharisees and Sadducees, who like us today, were enamored with wealth, status and a desire to be honored by men, came out to visit John the Baptist as he was preaching in the desert. They thought because of their position, status and wealth that John would roll out the red carpet upon their arrival. Why were the Pharisees and Sadducees blinded to God's will? How do we know that John the Baptist reacted to them in a way that demonstrated he was in God's will?