

Review:

Lesson 1: Faith and Adversity

Lesson 2: Faith and Temptations

Lesson 3: Faith and God's Word

Faith and Equality

James 2:1-13

One of the ways Christ followers are called to stand out in this world is in how we relate to others, especially those who are different from us. _____ for _____ is a hallmark of authentic Christian faith.

Discussion 1. Christians should be advocating for equality. How might our advocacy for equality look different from the world's advocacy for equality? Are there spiritual disciplines in your own life that help you see people the way God sees them?

When it comes to categorizing people, God's ways are not our ways...not at all. To be clear, His ways are not upside down and inside out...ours are. The truth that sets us free is the truth about _____ and about _____.

Discussion 2. Can you think of specific ways your Christianity has changed how you see others? Are there wrong ways of seeing others that your faith has corrected in you?

In God's eyes, when it comes to how we treat others (and even how we think about others), there are no minor infractions. Partiality and bias toward others is a _____ for Christ followers.

Discussion 3. Can you think of any examples from your own life where you may have treated your own partiality or biases towards others as a minor infraction, i.e., where you may have initially underestimated how serious it was? Do you think "the Church" treats partiality and inequality as seriously as it should? Why or why not?

According to scripture, how we handle our own _____ and inequalities toward others has a way of coming back around on us come judgment day. How do you want to be judged?

Discussion 4. Have you ever been treated unfairly or with prejudice? If so, what impact did that experience have on how you treat others? Did it motivate you to work harder to be impartial?

Discussion 5. How does this lesson cause you to pray? How does it prepare your heart for worship?