

Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?

**Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.
James 1:1-12**

**THE CASE AGAINST FAVORITISM
James 2:1-13**

Main Thought: A maturing follower of Jesus Christ does not show favoritism because of the arguments against it in James 2:1-13.

1. FAVORITISM IS _____ . (vv 1-4)

2. FAVORITISM _____ A SPIRITUAL

(vv 5-7)

3. FAVORITISM _____ THE ROYAL _____
OF _____
(vv 8-11)

4. FAVORITISM WILL BE _____ . (vv 12-13)

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS

1. Read James 2:1-13.
2. What do we learn from 2:1 about who James is writing to?
3. What command does James give in 2:1?
4. What is favoritism?
5. What example of favoritism does James give in verses 2-4? What does this suggest about how we should view people? How does Jesus view people?
6. James was writing to an economically depressed community. Why would favoritism be a problem in this setting?
7. In what ways is favoritism shown in our society today? In our churches today? On what basis do we tend to judge people?
8. What reason does James give in verses 5-7 to oppose favoritism?
9. Why has God chosen the poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith?
10. Why should we be concerned with the poor? Think about how Jesus entered the world. What did Jesus quote in the synagogue when he began his ministry? (See Luke 4:18-19)
11. What reason does James give in verses 8-11 to oppose favoritism?
12. What is the royal law found in Scripture? On what basis does someone become a law beaker? What point is James trying to make about the law?
13. What reason does James give in verses 12-13 to oppose favoritism?
14. What is the law that gives freedom?
15. What does it mean to be merciful? How does mercy triumph over judgment?
16. How would you summarize James' teaching in this passage? How is it impacting your life today?