



# Adulting

Accept

Snooze

*Expositional study on the book of James.*

*The #1 catalyst for spiritual growth is reading and reflecting on the Bible.  
Use these questions for personal study or as part of a community group experience.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

**10/01/2017**

Faith leads the Christian to build a community of justice and mercy. God has created us for community. Consequently, this community must reflect the heart and purposes of God.

## **QUESTIONS**

1. What is something you learned from Sunday's message?
2. What is one thing you feel led to do after this message?
3. Re-read James 2:1-13. What do you discover about God's character or concerns from this passage?
4. According to James, why is showing partiality or favoritism incompatible with faith?
5. How does favoritism and discrimination within the church reflect upon God?
6. Was the early church primarily composed of rich people or poor? On what do you base your answer?

7. Verse 5 says God has chosen the poor to be rich in faith. Is God guilty of showing favoritism? Explain. (Consider 1 Timothy 6:17-19.)
  
8. What is at the root of favoritism (Jude 1:16; Proverbs 28:21; Romans 2:6-11)?
  
9. How does Jesus' reinterpretation of the law (v. 8; cf. Matthew 22:36-40) address what seems like a human tendency toward favoritism?
  
10. How does this message lead to a desire for justice and mercy? In what ways does it change how we view God and others?
  
11. In what ways do you struggle with showing preferential treatment to some and prejudice against others?
  
12. What are two specific ways you can begin loving people as God does this week in your home? In the workplace? At church?

### **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

Father, thank you that you are a God who upholds the poor, the widow, the orphan, and the foreigner with justice, mercy, and love. I am grateful that you have a deep desire to be in relationship with all people. In this letter by James, you call the church to a standard of unity and equality. Help me grow in my understanding of my own dependence upon you and the grace, though I am underserving, that you give me. Transform my heart to reflect your love for others and teach me to obey your commands. Where I have shown favoritism and prejudice, forgive me. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.