

James: More than Words

A study for Community Groups to use the week of August 24th

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Community Group Discussion Guide** to complete the **GOD'S WORDS** and **MY WORDS** columns using the scripture below.

Week Three: James 2:1-13

Overview

Everyone talks about faith, but what does real faith actually look like? In a world full of noise, opinions, and empty promises, the book of James cuts through the fluff with a bold message: faith isn't just something you say, it's something you live. This series explores how belief in Jesus should shape everyday life, from how we speak, to how we suffer, how we treat others, and how we make decisions. More Than Words is a practical walk through the book of James. It's a call to a faith that shows up, not just on Sundays, but in the moments that matter most.

Passage: James 2:1-13. James' previous reference to hypocritical religiosity (1:26-27) seems to have led him to deal with one form of this problem that existed among Christian Jews of his day. It is still with us today. It is the problem of inconsistent love for other people that manifests itself in how we treat them. James wrote this chapter to exhort his readers to deal with this very basic inconsistency in their lives and so progress toward spiritual maturity.– *Constable Notes*

Questions

*The questions below are designed to supplement the standard questions that we provide in our Group Discussion Guide; *Who have you had the opportunity to BLESS this week? What does this reveal about God? About People? About the Life He has planned for us?*

1. As you think about favoritism within a church setting, what forms of it are you most prone to struggle? Have you ever felt like the target of someone else's favoritism? How did that impact your connection to that community?
2. How does our society encourage the practice of partiality or favoritism? How do we remain sensitive to that temptation so as to not let it creep into our community or church?
3. What are some specific ways that we see Jesus live contrary to the partiality and favoritism that James speaks against here? What specific stories stand out as examples of his way of life?
4. Partiality can be an easy temptation to fall into. What are some practical steps to take this week both individually and as a community to prevent ourselves from practicing favoritism in our lives?