

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

JAMES

These questions are for the **June 14, 2015 Sermon**, "Playing No Favorites, Part 1." Please read the sermon passage (James 2:1-7) together out loud.

Sermon Outline:

AS IMPARTIAL BELIEVERS, NOTE . . .

1. **The faith we are to hold** (1)
 - A. True believers are instructed to show no partiality.
 - B. Don't let external characteristics make judgments, either positive or negative.
2. **The distinctions we are to reject** (2-4)
 - A. The God who is impartial is displaced by people who make distinctions.
 - B. We often judge others harshly, while going easy on ourselves.
3. **The questions we are to address** (5-7)
 - A. Has not God himself overcome distinctions with grace?
 - B. If Christ modeled a "portable table," which went to all people, shouldn't we?

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Where is partiality evident in your attitude? Actions?
2. Based on #1, above: Christ loved you in spite of your financial situation, outward appearance, convictions or preferences. Who do you love less because of those factors? Why is it sin?
3. Based on #2, above: When considering others, do you tend to focus on similarities or differences? What similarities unite us? How do these similarities cause us to accept people and see ourselves as no better than anyone else?
4. Based on #2, above: In what way do you judge others harshly and then judge yourself leniently? Why is this so offensive?
5. Based on #3, above: How "portable" is your table? What will you learn from Jesus' example of pursuing relationships with both rich and poor alike? Pierced and non-pierced? Tattooed and non-tattooed?