

## **Journey through James – Chapter 2 – January 28, 2015**

**James 2** As a brief summary, chapter 1 addressed mature Christians being patient in times of testing. Chapter 2 addresses mature Christians need to practice the truth. We need to live out our faith.

### **Verses 1-4**

- 1. How does our behavior towards others demonstrate the depth of our faith?**
- 2. How should our relationship with Jesus Christ impact our human relationships?**

The literal translation for verse one is *“My brothers, don’t hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of Glory, by showing favoritism.”* Jewish people of that day valued recognition & honor, they sought out praise.

- 3. With the above in mind, how does the favoritism addressed in verses 1-4 apply to NCCC and/or us personally?**
- 4. What, if any, obstacles do you face in reaching out to others?**
- 5. What is a healthy way to be challenged by these verses?**
- 6. What are some steps we can take to grow in our ability to view people the way Jesus does?**
- 7. What needs to be the foundation, or basis for any relationship we have with others?**

### **Verses 5-7**

*Jesus was born to poor parents. This is seen in the fact that when they presented Him in the temple they could only afford to present two doves.*

- 1. Wealth is not a sin, but why does the Bible frequently caution about wealth?**
- 2. In what way does wealth become an obstacle to the gospel?**

### **Verses 8-11**

1. Who is your neighbor?
2. In this respect, how do actions speak louder than words?
3. Does favoring someone over another hinder our relationship with God?
4. Why is James so heavily addressing favoritism and how does it make its way into the church today?
5. *Christian love means treating others the way God has treated me.* What does that mean to you?
6. What is the correlation between what we believe in the Bible and how we live our lives?

#### Verses 12-13

1. Since believers have freedom in Christ, should we have a standard on the words we speak and the actions we take?
2. *Verse 13* – What needs to be our motive to be merciful to others and what should showing mercy look like?
3. Is James focusing on a “works” mentality or a heart attitude? Explain.
4. Is it legitimate to say how we treat others is a fair test of the depth of our faith?

#### Verses 14-17

1. What is “*dead faith*”?
2. Why should produce good works?
3. How should discernment be used in this area?

#### Verses 18-26

- 1. Do demons have faith? Do they believe in the existence & deity of God?**
- 2. What point is James making regarding possessing believing faith & living transformed lives?**
- 3. How should faith impact our will?**
- 4. Should saving faith necessarily lead to action?**
- 5. Explain what *verse 24* means to you.**
- 6. How can *verse 26* be applied to:**
  - Your life.**
  - NCCC.**