

# THE BOOK OF JAMES

WORDS TO LIVE BY  
Week 3

## READ: JAMES 2:1-26

### Ice Breaker 🗨️

Who is the most famous person you have ever met? How did you react when meeting them?

### [Deep Dive Questions 💬

1. [Context] Who is James addressing?
2. If the scene described in vv.2-3 were to happen this week at Midtown Church, what do you think would happen – would the each of the two individuals be treated differently? How so and why?
3. What does James say about this in v.4?
4. What do vv.5-7 say about the poor and the rich?
5. Does your push for power distort your prejudices?
6. Do you think the poor are really rich in faith? Why would James say that? How does this relate with favoritism?
7. What is the “royal law” James mentions in v.8?
8. How does showing favoritism break that law?
9. According to vv.10-12, how would James respond to someone who says, “I’ve kept seven of the ten commandments. That’s a passing grade, right? (Cs get degrees!)”
10. If it is so difficult to keep God’s law perfectly, can we ever truly please Him? How does the law give us freedom?
11. What is mercy? What is justice?
12. Should we seek mercy more than justice? Why or why not?
13. Pastor Bob mentioned during his sermon that “Mercy is the best friend of the innocent, but mercy is the friend of the guilty.” Based on what you read in this chapter, are you considered innocent or guilty?
14. How does this idea of mercy bring us back to the matter of showing favoritism?
15. Do our words and actions reflect the mercy we have received from God?

### Walk it Out!

- [Memorization] Learn James 2:1 and 2:12-13.
- [Reflection] What kind of mercy has God shown you? Are you showing that same mercy to everyone else? Who do you need to give mercy to this week?
- [Connection] Meet up with 1-2 people from your group this week (perhaps someone whose story you don’t know well), get to know them, and pray for one another.
- [Reading] Pastor Tyrone shared during his message that “Faith is the root, and works are the fruit.” Read and digest James 2:14-26 this week. Listen to God and ask Him to transform you from the inside out!

