

(in)FORMATION

GAINING INFORMATION FROM JAMES, SO WE CAN BE IN FORMATION LIKE JESUS.



NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTER
September 06, 2026

NO FAVORITES

Pastor Dave Larson | Turlock
Pastor Jeremy Moore | Patterson

Key Text: James 2:1-13 (NLT)

V. 4: doesn't this discrimination show that your judgments are guided by evil motives?

1. I will _____ people like Jesus.

V. 5: Listen to me, dear brothers and sisters. Hasn't God chosen the poor in this world to be rich in faith? Aren't they the ones who will inherit the Kingdom he promised to those who love him?

2. I will _____ people like Jesus.

V. 9: But if you favor some people over others, you are committing a sin. You are guilty of breaking the law.

Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it. And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them. Mark 10:14b-16 (NLT)

3. I will _____ people like Jesus.

V. 12-13: So, whatever you say or whatever you do, remember that you will be judged by the law that sets you free. There will be no mercy for those who have not shown mercy to others. But if you have been merciful, God will be merciful when he judges you.

But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. Romans 5:8 (NLT)

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V. 4: doesn't this discrimination show that your judgments are guided by evil motives?

1. I will SEE people like Jesus.

V. 5: Listen to me, dear brothers and sisters. Hasn't God chosen the poor in this world to be rich in faith? Aren't they the ones who will inherit the Kingdom he promised to those who love him?

2. I will VALUE people like Jesus.

V. 9: But if you favor some people over others, you are committing a sin. You are guilty of breaking the law.

Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it. And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them. Mark 10:14b-16 (NLT)

3. I will LOVE people like Jesus.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS CONNECT

Take some time and talk about some of your “favorites”? (ex. Sports teams, restaurants/foods, seasons, etc.)

ENGAGE

What stood out to you most from this week’s message, and why? (Read James 2:1-13)

GROW

1. Read James 2:1–4. Why do you think favoritism is such a serious issue to James?
2. What are some ways our culture teaches us to categorize or label people? How can those labels affect the way we treat them?
3. The message said, “The way I see someone will eventually affect the way I treat them.” Where have you seen this prove true in your own life?
4. In the story of Zacchaeus, the crowd saw his reputation while Jesus saw the person beneath it. What helps us learn to see people beyond their past, reputation, appearance, or behavior?
5. Who are the kinds of people you naturally notice—and who are you more likely to overlook? What do you think influences that?
6. The message says, “You don’t have to become like me for me to love you like Jesus.” Why can loving people who think, believe, vote, or live differently from us be difficult?
7. Where is the difference between showing Christlike love and maintaining healthy wisdom, discernment, and boundaries with someone?
8. Who is one person God may be challenging you to “cross the room” toward this week? What specific step could you take to see them, value them, or love them more like Jesus?

CHALLENGE:

This week, intentionally cross the room for someone you might normally overlook. Learn their name, hear their story, encourage them, invite them to coffee, pray for them, or simply slow down long enough to listen. And throughout the week, make this your prayer: “Jesus, help me see what You see.”