

- a. Partiality is not pure and undefiled religion. To be partial is to be exclusionary. It is to choose one over another. It is not always wrong to be partial or to make exclusions. Once again, James goes after motives. This is a prayer application: spend time this week asking God to show you how you have been sinfully partial in your prayers and Christian practice.
- b. As young adults we often believe (or act) as if we “corner the market” on wisdom and knowledge. Most of us when pressed would deny this (of course). But we may be “practical partialists” if we aren’t engaging Christians of others generations.

Consider asking an older couple over for lunch after church one Sunday. See if they would do so monthly with you.

Ask God to help you choose a couple. You will find them good companions in the Lord. Brothers and sisters who are helpful in marital, parenting and other matters.

- c. James 2:1 uses a very rare phrase, “Lord of glory.” He uses it to show us a few things.

First, that only Jesus is worthy of partiality.

Second, One so glorious has a special set of criteria of partiality that we should adopt: those who are helpless.

Ask God to give you an opportunity to show godly partiality toward one who is helpless: a single mom/dad, a grieving person, an orphan, a homeless person, a shut-in.

- d. Consider the groups we mentioned in class. No doubt you have your own particular grouping (we all do). There is distinction-making and judgmentalism in the Young Adult Community. It needs to be identified, confessed and repented of as it is evil.

Consider your heart. Who have you been talking about? How have you been acting as if you’re better than another based on his or her Christian practice or lack of it? (If you can’t think of any, ask a significant other in your life to help make sure your assessment is correct.)

Repent of this sin.

Take active steps to bridge the gap.

- e. In chapter 2, James is taking us on a faith-application journey. Be praying that God would reform your practice. It could be that your good works of faith have been corrupt and rusty. Now is the chance to renew these things. Keep in mind, though that we’re talking about applications of faith – this is the “no earning God’s love” zone. That’s done because of what Christ has done. Now, we’re walking in those good works He’s intended for us (Ephesians 2:10).