

**Playing Favorites**  
November 19, 2023 – James 2:1-13  
Andrew Bolcom



1. What is favoritism

Definition: preferential treatment for superficial reasons

2. Why is favoritism Wrong

3. How do we Love

## Discussion Questions:

1. What are some ways in which you personally tend to show favoritism? Are there certain contexts in which you tend to show more favoritism than others?
2. Explain why favoritism is a failure of love. Why does God say that to show favoritism is to break the law that commands is to love your neighbor as yourself?
3. Showing favoritism is different than making moral judgments. Favoritism is to make moral judgment on illegitimate and immoral grounds. Give some examples in which we \*should\* make clear moral judgment and explain why this is not favoritism.
4. How does God's mercy shown to you help you avoid favoritism and instead love others?
5. Consider someone that you tend to avoid or neglect within the church? What can you do this week to connect them in order to encourage them and bless them?

## Next Steps:

1. If you are a visitor with us, we would love to connect with you. Please fill out a Connection Card and turn it at the Welcome Center. We would like to give you a gift as a thank you for joining us.
2. If you are interested in baptism, let Pastor Jon know in person or email him at [pjpickens@fbclowell.org](mailto:pjpickens@fbclowell.org).
3. Read the Bible with us to know God and respond to Him! Below is our current schedule.

November 2023				
(Two Year Reading Plan, Month 23)				
Week 1 Starting Oct 30 Nov 3	Week 2 Starting Nov 6	Week 3 Starting Nov 13	Week 4 Starting Nov 20	Week 5 Starting Nov 27
Day 1: 1 Cor 1-3	Day 1: 1 Cor 13-14	Day 1: 2 Cor 11-13	Day 1: Phil 1-4	Day 1: 1 Tim 1-3
Day 2: 1 Cor 4-6	Day 2: 1 Cor 15-16	Day 2: Gal 1-3	Day 2: Col 1-4, Philemon	Day 2: 1 Tim 4-6
Day 3: 1 Cor 7-8	Day 3: 2 Cor 1-3	Day 3: Gal 4-6	Day 3: 1 Thess 1-3	Day 3: 2 Tim 1-4
Day 4: 1 Cor 9-10	Day 4: 2 Cor 4-7	Day 4: Eph 1-3	Day 4: 1 Thess 4-5	Day 4: Titus 1-3
Day 5: 1 Cor 11-12	Day 5: 2 Cor 8-10	Day 5: Eph 4-6	Day 5: 2 Thess 1-3	Day 5: Heb 1-3

<sup>17</sup> But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup> Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

James 3:17,18 (NIV)

**What was your big take-a-way from the message this morning?**