

Discussion Questions for “The Kingdom of Love”
James 2:1-13, Pastor Trey Sonnenberg, Weekend of July 19, 2026

Outline:

<i>Prejudice</i>	Attitude	Judging someone before knowing.	“I think less of you”
<i>Favoritism</i>	Preference	Desiring one over another.	“I think more of them”
<i>Partiality</i>	Conduct	Treating differently b/c of preference.	“Therefore, I treat you differently.”

Two Realities:

1. Partiality is incompatible with faith in Jesus Christ.
2. The world is full of partiality.

Five Christian Truths That Defeat “Partiality”:

1. You know, Jesus, the Lord of glory (v. 1)
2. You have received the gospel of grace (v. 5)
3. You have heard the King’s law of love (v. 8)
4. You know the reality of coming judgment (v. 10-12)
5. You have been called to extend the mercy you’ve received (v. 13)

Questions:

1. When you read James 2:1–13, what part of the passage surprises you most? Could you put into one sentence why James speaks so strongly against showing partiality?
2. How does remembering your own spiritual condition before Christ change the way you should view and treat other people?
3. Why do you think showing partiality and playing favorites are fundamentally a failure to love our neighbor? What makes it more than simply having bad manners?
4. Where do you most feel the pressure to evaluate people the way the world does, instead of the way God does? What makes that pressure so persuasive?
5. What does showing mercy actually look like in everyday relationships? How is mercy different from simply being kind or polite?
6. Who is someone you are naturally inclined to overlook, avoid, or make assumptions about? What would it look like this week to intentionally love that person as your neighbor? (Consider one person in the church, and one outside the church).
7. What do you think about the following statement: *One could say this passage is actually more about worship than obedience, for when Christ’s glory becomes our highest value, worldly status loses its grip.*