

Showing Up

A STUDY OF JAMES

SERMON SERIES | APRIL 16 - MAY 28



Sunday, April 23, 2023

Showing Up: "Free to See"

Speaker: Dr. Brian Bennett

Notes:

[James 2:1-13]

Are you "free to see" or "out of focus" and "playing favorites"?

[James 2:1-4; John 3:16; 1 Samuel 16:7]

- **A definition of partiality:** prejudging someone, either positively or negatively, based on...

Why should "Christians" be "free to see"?

[James 2:5-11]

- **James gives three reasons to be "free to see":**

- o Theologically God is _____ (1 Corinthians 1:26-29)
- o Logically it harms _____ (James 2:6-7)
- o Biblically we are commanded to _____ and _____ (Mark 12:29-31)

How do we get "free to see"?

[James 2:12-13; Galatians 3:26-28]

- Choose _____ as your standard, not your habits
- Choose the law of _____, not your bias
- Choose to give the _____ you have received, not your judgment
- Choose the blessing of _____, not your partiality

Next Step Questions:

- Are you "free to see" or are you playing favorites?
- Will you let Jesus' love set you free today and come to Him?

LifeGroup Discussion Questions:

1. How is God at work in and around your life?

2. What is your favorite sports team? Why?
3. Could you relate to the example with the jerseys that Pastor Brian shared?
4. What do you think of Pastor Brian's definition of partiality:
 - A definition of partiality: prejudging someone, either positively or negatively, based on personal bias without regard for their unique personhood.
 - Read James 2:1. How does faith in Christ change our partiality?
5. Read James 2:1-11 together as a group.
 - As you review these verses and the points from the message, what challenges you most?
 - What encourages you the most?
 - Our mission at Pathway is "to love God and love all people in our pathway". How do these verses today help us move forward with this?
6. Read James 2:12-13
 - What do you think the law of liberty means?
 - What is the difference between mercy and judgement?
 - Why do you think James listed this alongside the sin of partiality in this passage?
7. What are some of the challenges we might face in our community here on the treasure coast with partiality and being "free to see"?
8. How did you answer the next step questions from the message?
9. How can we pray for you and support you this week?