

Digging Deeper: James 2:1–13 (*Favoritism Forbidden*)  
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Faith in Action – Don't be Partial

### **Day 1**

Pray for Awareness. Leviticus 19:15 refers to a time when the Lord God spoke to Moses to deliver a message to Aaron, his sons (the priests) and to all of Israel about the forbiddance of eating the blood of sacrificed animals. In James 2:1, the brother of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ warned that those who believe in Christ should not show favoritism. Again, pray this day to the Lord for Divine awareness in all that we hear, say and do!

### **Day 2**

Pray for Compassion, and carefully read James 2:2–4. Think about situations in your life where you may have prejudged/misjudged someone because of your *own* bias and bigotry. How does it feel when this happens to you or to someone you love? Again, pray for compassion, recalling when many treated our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in this manner.

### **Day 3**

Pray for Faith. Read James 2:5. The Bible is filled with references for the good of those who are “poor in the eyes of this world.” For you will be “rich in faith” and will “inherit the kingdom he promised to those who love him” (and are like him). This inheritance means much more than just entering the kingdom; it also involves ruling with Christ. Read also: 1 Cor. 6:9; Gal. 5:21; 2 Tim. 2:12. Pray joyfully, “always giving thanks to God our Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Eph. 5:20).

### **Day 4**

Pray for Forgiveness when reading James 2:6–7. Read 1 Co. 11:22 in reference to unity and diversity in the Body. Then read the story of Ananais and Sapphira (Acts 5:1–11) and about the persecution and scattering of the church in Acts 8:1–3. Listen carefully for what God is saying to the world in which we live. Pray remorsefully for the sins we are tolerating and committing. Pray also for God's forgiveness, as we forgive those who sin against us.

### **Day 5**

Pray for Agape Love, which is perfect, unconditional, sacrificial and pure. Read James 2:8–11 which speaks about keeping the “royal” law found in Scripture (which ironically is associated with the word “royalty”). The royal law in this text, however, refers to “Loving your *neighbor* as yourself.” Read also: Lev. 19:18; Deut. 6:4–9; and Mark 12:28–31. Be wise Christ followers and recognize that *God our Father* is the one who determines who our *neighbors* are, which has less to do with jurisdictions, street addresses, church houses and zip codes.

### **Day 6**

Pray for Mercy. James 2:12 reminds us how we are to live. The “law of freedom” in this verse refers to the perfect law of “loving God and loving one's neighbor” that is

summed up in Rom. 13:8–10. “For whoever loves others has *fulfilled (God’s) law*,” because “love is the fulfillment of the law.” James closes out this passage in a mighty way. For “judgement without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgement.” (James 2:13). Again, pray this day for God’s mercy to reside within us through the blessings of the Holy Spirit.