

Week 6, Devotional 1 – James 2:1-4

| Activity | Source |
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| Prayer | <u>Adoration:</u> Lord, you are mighty and bigger than anyone or anything else we know. Still, you love us and treat us all better than we treat you. Help us to know you more now as we read your Word. |
| Scripture Reading | James 2:1-4 |
| Discussion Questions | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is “partiality” or “favoritism?” 2. Have you ever treated some as the “favorites” and others as “lesser?” 3. Ever had that happen to you? How did it make you feel? 4. Why is it important to not treat people that way as Christians? What could it make them believe about Jesus and his church? 5. How can you work to consider everyone equal regardless of what they wear or where they live? 6. How did Jesus model this for us? 7. What did you learn through this lesson? |
| Hymn/Song | <p>Listen to “His Mercy is More” by Matthew Boswell or the Getty’s</p> <p>V1: What love could remember no wrongs we have done Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore Our sins they are many, His mercy is more</p> <p>V2: What patience would wait as we constantly roam What Father, so tender, is calling us home He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor Our sins they are many, His mercy is more</p> <p>Chorus: Praise the Lord, His mercy is more Stronger than darkness, new every morn Our sins they are many, His mercy is more</p> <p>Praise the Lord, His mercy is more Stronger than darkness, new every morn Our sins they are many, His mercy is more</p> <p>V3: What riches of kindness He lavished on us His blood was the payment, His life was the cost We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford Our sins they are many, His mercy is more</p> <p>Chorus</p> |
| Prayer | <u>Confession:</u> Lord, we confess that we don’t always treat people like you tell us to. We prefer some over others based on their clothes or how they look. |

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| | <p><u>Thanksgiving:</u> Thank you that you are my friend and that you love me even when I don't measure up. Thank you that because of Jesus, you don't count my sins against me any longer. .</p> |
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| | <p><u>Supplication:</u> God, help us to show kindness like you've shown to us – and mercy like you've shown to us. We want to see people like you see them.</p> |
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Week 6, Devotional 2 – James 2:5-6

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| Prayer | <u>Adoration:</u> Lord, you are all good, all knowing, all loving, and all powerful. You are worthy of our praise as we read your Word, sing, and pray together. |
| Scripture Reading | James 2:5-6 |
| Discussion Questions | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In verse 6, James is pointing out how strange it is that these people in the church want to approval of those who treat them the very worst. Have you ever wanted approval from someone who wasn't kind to you? 2. Do you want to share about it? Why do you think we all do that sometimes? 3. In verse 5, James begins by talking about God choosing the poor. Do you think that means God doesn't love rich people? (hint: of course not. It's just pointing out that God doesn't prefer rich people over poor people like we sometimes do). 4. Look up some verses about the poor like Proverbs 19:17 – Proverbs 14:31. How does these verses teach us about God's love for the poor and needy? 5. How does this relate to what we read last week in James 1:27? 6. What did you learn through this lesson? |
| Hymn/Song | <p>Look up "Just as I Am" by Travis Cottrell</p> <p>V1: Just as I am, without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me And that Thou bidst me come to Thee O Lamb of God, I come! I come!</p> <p>V2: Just as I am, and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot O Lamb of God I come! I come!</p> <p>Chorus: I come broken to be mended I come wounded to be healed I come desperate to be rescued I come empty to be filled I come guilty to be pardoned By the blood of Christ the Lamb And I'm welcomed with open arms Praise God, just as I am</p> <p>V3: Just as I am, I would be lost But mercy and grace my freedom bought</p> |

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| | <p>And now to glory in Your cross O Lamb of God I come! I come!</p> <p>Chorus: I come broken to be mended I come wounded to be healed I come desperate to be rescued I come empty to be filled I come guilty to be pardoned By the blood of Christ the Lamb And I'm welcomed with open arms Praise God, just as I am</p> |
| <p>Prayer</p> | <p><u>Confession:</u> Lord, I sometimes want approval so badly from people who don't even follow you. I'm sorry. Help me to find my worth in you and not in the approval of others. Give me a heart for the poor and those that our culture views as "lesser"</p> <p><u>Thanksgiving:</u> Thank you that you love me "just as I am" but you never leave me that way. You are constantly growing and changing me - making me more like Jesus.</p> <p><u>Supplication:</u> Help me now to love others as well as you love me. Give me eyes to see others like you see them.</p> |

Week 6, Devotional 3 – James 2:8-11

| Activity | Source |
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| Prayer | <u>Adoration:</u> Lord, it is humbling to think of how big you are and realize that you still think of us and love us. We praise you for that now as we look at your Word. |
| Scripture Reading | James 2:8-11 |
| Discussion Questions | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We are reminded in these verses that to break one “law” of God is to break the whole law. Did you know that? What do you think about it? 2. Read Romans 3:23. Who does it say has sinned and fallen short of God’s glory and standard? 3. If we have all broken the law of God – what is the punishment for that? Read Romans 6:23. 4. What has God done for us that we might be forgiven for breaking God’s law? 5. How do we receive that forgiveness? Read John 3:16 and John 1:9. 6. Have you ever done this? Do you want to today? 7. What did you learn through this lesson? |
| Hymn/Song | <p>Listen to Amazing Grace by Chris Tomlin</p> <p>V1: Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me I once was lost, but now I'm found Was blind, but now I see</p> <p>V2: 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed</p> <p>Chorus: My chains are gone, I've been set free My God, my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy reigns Unending love Amazing grace</p> <p>V3: The Lord has promised good to me His word my hope secures He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures</p> |

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| | <p>Chorus: My chains are gone, I've been set free My God, my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy reigns Unending love Amazing grace</p> <p>V4: The earth shall soon dissolve like snow The sun forbear to shine But God, who called me here below Will be forever mine, will be forever mine You are forever mine</p> |
| Prayer | <p><u>Confession:</u> Lord, I confess my sins to you and know that you are faithful and just to forgive me because of what Jesus has done for me.</p> <p><u>Thanksgiving:</u> Thank you that though I have broken your law and deserve punishment, I am offered grace and mercy because of Jesus dying in my place.</p> <p><u>Supplication:</u> God, help me to share this Good News with others this week. Show me people I know that do not know you – and give me a desire to tell them all about what Jesus has done for them.</p> |

Week 6, Devotional 4 – James 2:14-17

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| Prayer | <u>Adoration:</u> Lord, you are merciful and kind – massive and yet personal – all knowing and yet all-loving toward your children. Help us to know you better now as we read your Word together. |
| Scripture Reading | James 2:14-17 |
| Discussion Questions | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are these verses teaching? (hint: they teach us that truly believing in something like the gospel causes us to live in a certain way and do certain things). 2. If you believed that your house was on fire right now, how would you react? Would you stay put? 3. Who is someone in your life that you can tell really loves the Lord? How can you tell? What is it about that person that makes it so obvious? 4. Likewise – without naming names – are there people you know who say they love Jesus but treat others poorly? 5. James is teaching in verse 17 that a faith that does not change how we live and act and think is not a true faith. How should believing in Jesus change the way we live? 6. What did you learn in this lesson? |
| Hymn/Song | <p>Look up “Build Your Kingdom Here” by Rend Collective and follow along below.</p> <p>Chorus: Build Your kingdom here Let the darkness fear Show Your mighty hand Heal our streets and land Set Your church on fire Win this nation back Change the atmosphere Build Your kingdom here We pray</p> <p>V1: Come set Your rule and reign In our hearts again Increase in us we pray Unveil why we're made Come set our hearts ablaze with hope Like wildfire in our very souls Holy Spirit, come invade us now We are Your Church And we need Your power In us</p> |

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| | <p>V2: We seek Your kingdom first We hunger and we thirst Refuse to waste our lives For You're our joy and prize To see the captive hearts released The hurt, the sick, the poor at peace We lay down our lives for Heaven's cause We are Your church And we pray revive This earth (we're prayin' for revival)</p> <p>Chorus: Build Your kingdom here Let the darkness fear Show Your mighty hand Heal our streets and land Set Your church on fire Win this nation back Change the atmosphere Build Your kingdom here We pray (change the atmosphere)</p> <p>V3: Unleash Your kingdom's power Reaching the near and far No force of hell can stop Your beauty changing hearts You made us for much more than this Awake the kingdom seed in us Fill us with the strength and love of Christ We are Your church Oh, and we are the hope On earth</p> |
| Prayer | <p><u>Confession:</u> God, sometimes my actions don't show others that I love you and want to follow you. Forgive me for all of the careless and unkind things I say and do. Forgive me for being selfish.</p> <p><u>Thanksgiving:</u> Thank you that your Word is clear in how we ought to live. Help me to submit my life to it and trust that following you is more enjoyable than following my own heart.</p> <p><u>Supplication:</u> Father, give us a heart for other people that matches your heart for them. Give me an opportunity to show you through my actions this week.</p> |