**Just Love (4/28/24)**

**Discussion Questions**

**Summary:** Before the day of financing and credit cards, wealth and social status were immediately obvious based on how you dressed. Even charitable giving was done in a public way so everyone knew who gave a lot and who gave less. So it was a genuine challenge in the early church to avoid giving special treatment to the people everyone knew had given the most. But James attacks that practice head on, calling it sin and a violation of the law of love. What does real love look like? 1) no partiality; 2) valuing everyone; 3) speaking and acting with compassion. Lord Jesus, help us see our own selfishness and grow more and more into your love!

To follow Jesus is to follow His law of **Love** (v. 1,7)

“If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself,’ you are doing well.” James 2:8

**What True Love Looks Like:**

1. Show no **Preferences** for people (wealth, gender, status, appearance etc.) (v. 1,4,9)
2. **Value** everyone (v. 3,5-6)
3. Speak and act with **Compassion** (v. 8-10,12-13)

“And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’” Matthew 25:40

**Get Started:**

1. Who best embodied LOVE for you when you were growing up? What did that love look like in your life?
2. Who has modeled love for you in your church experience? What made such an impression on you?

**Dig In:** Read James 2:1-13

1. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. Since wealth and poverty were more visible in ancient times, showing special treatment must have been difficult to avoid. What does the example James uses (v. 2-4) show us about how people were commonly treated back then?
3. How does James urge an impartial welcome and hospitality? What arguments does he use (v. 4-7)?
4. Why do you think James expands from hospitality to the entire law (v. 8-13)?

**Move Forward:**

1. Last week in our meeting we did an S.O.S. Do you remember what the Lord led you to do in obedience to His Word last week? (Did anyone write those commitments down?) How did it go?
2. To whom could you show hospitality this week? Is there someone in your life who is on your heart to care for and reach out to in love?
3. Is there someone we could serve and love as a GROUP this week? What might that look like?
4. Let’s pray for opportunities to love and serve and show hospitality in Jesus’ Name this week!