

HOW TO TREAT PEOPLE RIGHT (Sermon Series on the Book of James #8)

Introduction: Our biggest problems are people problems.

James 2:8 (NIV) "If you really keep the royal law found in scripture, 'Love your neighbor as yourself,' You are doing right."

THREE "P's" FOR SERVING PEOPLE

1. THE P _____

James 2:1 (NIV) "My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism."

- Greek word "prosopolasias" means _____.
- Four areas of discrimination

1. A _____

2. A _____

3. A _____

4. A _____

James 2: 2-4 (NIV) "Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. ³ If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," ⁴ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?"

2. THE P _____

- Two reasons favoritism is a problem:

1. Favoritism is _____.

Romans 2:11 (NIV) "For God does not show favoritism."

Ephesians 6:9 (NIV) "There is no favoritism with God."

2. Favoritism is _____.

James 2:5 (NIV) "... Has not God chosen those who are poor... to be rich in faith...and inherit the kingdom?"

James 2:6 (NIV) Is it not the rich who are exploiting you?"

- How serious is favoritism?

James 2: 9-13 (NIV) “But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹ For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker. ¹² Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, ¹³ because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.”

3. THE P _____

- Two steps to have a serving church
 1. A _____ everybody

Romans 15:7 (NIV) “Accept one another just as Christ accepted you...”

- The Good News is God’s _____.
 - Accepting is not _____
 - The church is not a club for _____.
 - The church is a hospital for _____.
2. A _____ everybody.

I Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV) “Encourage one another and build each other up..”

- When people stumble, don’t criticize; do _____.
- Don’t expect people to act like _____ until they become _____.
- St John Lutheran is a loving church because we have people who are loved by _____.

Galatians 3: 26-28 (NIV) “²⁶ So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, ²⁷ for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”