

Truth as seen in the book of James- Small Group Guide: Week 6

Opening Prayer: Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your discussion and help apply the teachings to your lives.

Key Takeaways:

1. True Christianity is characterized by bridling the tongue, caring for the poor, and keeping oneself unstained from the world.
2. We should not show partiality based on social status or wealth.
3. The "Law of Liberty" refers to the Gospel, which produces love and mercy.
4. How we treat others is evidence of our relationship with Christ.

Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean to "bridle your tongue" in the context of how we speak about others? Can you share an example of when you struggled with this?
2. The sermon mentions that every human being carries the image of God. How should this truth impact the way we treat people who are different from us?
3. James talks about showing favoritism to the rich over the poor. In what ways do you see this happening in churches or society today?
4. How does the concept of the "Law of Liberty" differ from the Old Testament law? Why is this distinction important?
5. The sermon states, "How we treat others is the evidence of our relation to Christ." Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?
6. What does it mean to "love your neighbor as yourself" in practical terms? Share some specific examples.

7. How does the idea of being "judged under the law of liberty" motivate you to live differently?

Practical Applications:

1. This week, pay attention to how you speak about others. Make a conscious effort to "bridle your tongue" and speak with kindness and respect.

2. Identify someone in your community who may be overlooked or marginalized. Find a way to show them love and care this week.

3. Reflect on areas in your life where you might show partiality or favoritism. Ask God to help you treat all people with equal dignity and respect.

4. Practice extending mercy to someone who has wronged you, remembering that "mercy triumphs over judgment."

Closing Prayer: Thank God for His mercy and ask for His help in living out the teachings of James in your daily life.