

This isn't about a rich man and a poor man, it is about me.

### Favoritism is Foolish

Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called? James 2:5–7 (ESV)

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; 1 Corinthians 1:26–27 (ESV)

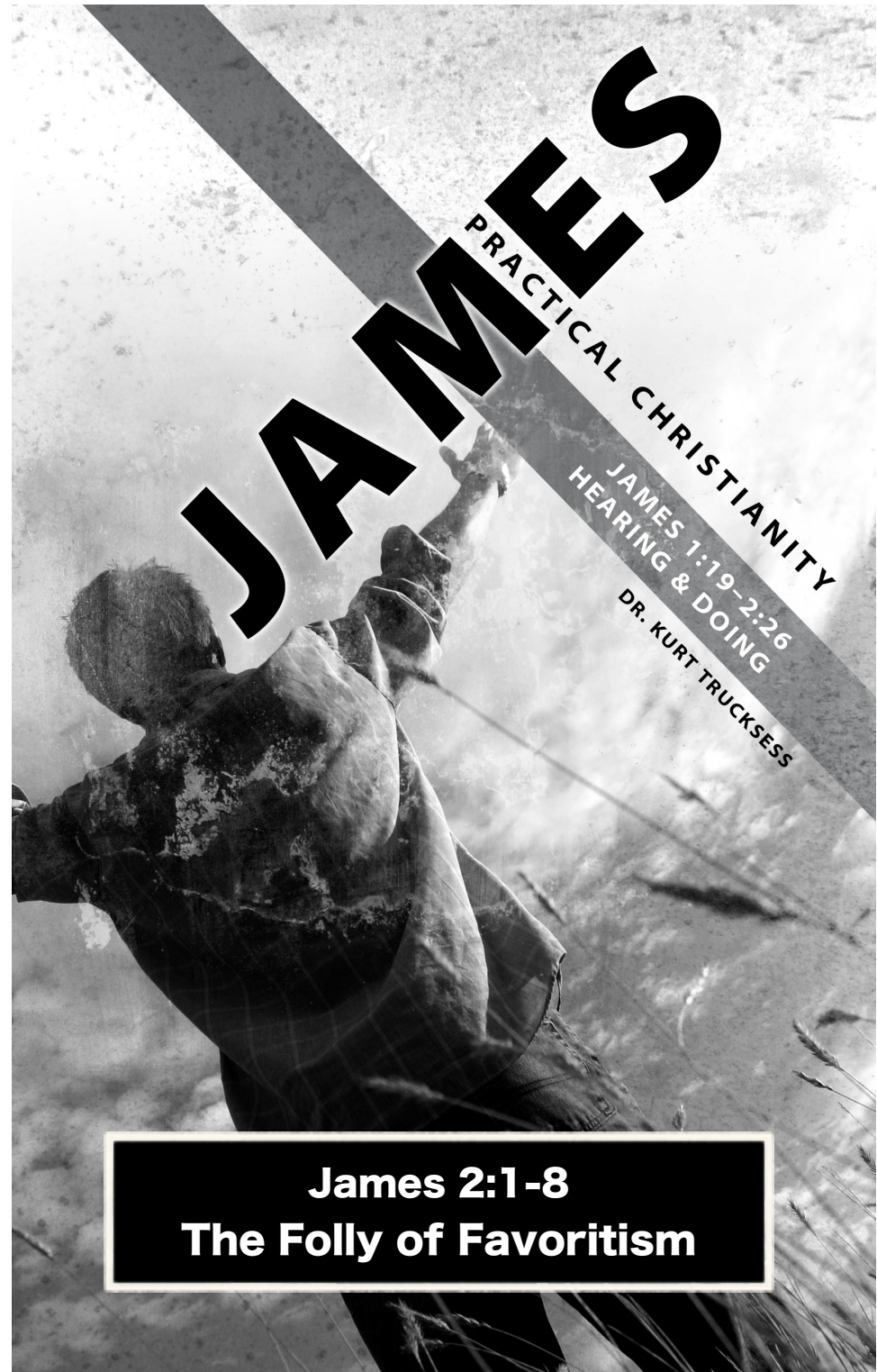
### What are we to do?

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 (ESV)

Want To Learn More? This handout, small group questions, sermon manuscript and the audio files of the sermon are available at:

[www.faithfree.com](http://www.faithfree.com) or [www.christ2Rculture.com](http://www.christ2Rculture.com)

Next Week: James 2:8-14 - The Dangers of Favoritism  
Two Weeks: James 2:14 - The Kind of Faith that Doesn't Save



# Faith Church - EFCA

June 26, 2011

## James 2:1-8 - The Folly of Favoritism

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My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. James 2:1 (ESV)

But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. James 2:9 (ESV)

For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? James 2:2–4 (ESV)

**The rich man gets the best seat in the house.**

**The poor man gets standing room only.**

and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? James 2:3–4 (ESV)

**What’s wrong with playing favorites?**

have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? James 2:4 (ESV)