

# *Refresh*

## **“Playing Flavorites?”**

**1 Sam. 16:7b:** *“The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”*

### **How Can I Avoid Prejudice?**

#### **1. By choosing to live life inside out.**

- **James 2:1-4:** *“My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. <sup>2</sup>Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in. <sup>3</sup>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,’ <sup>4</sup>have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?”*

**In what ways do I tend to discriminate?**

- a. Accomplishment
- b. Appearance
- c. Ancestry
- d. Age

#### **2. By choosing to live life upside-down.**

- **James 2:5-7:** *“Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have insulted the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? <sup>7</sup>Are they not the ones who are slandering the noble name of him to whom you belong?”*

#### **3. By choosing to live life right side up.**

- **James 2:8-13:** *“If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself,’ you are doing right. <sup>9</sup>But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. <sup>11</sup>For he who said, ‘Do not commit adultery,’ also said, ‘Do not murder.’ If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker. <sup>12</sup>Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, <sup>13</sup>because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!”*