



Going Deeper Together

Gospel Justice & Mercy

James 2:1-17

[based on sermon preached 14.11.21 – may be available on the [church app](#) or at <https://lwac.org.au/sermons>]

KEY IDEAS

- When we are recipients of God's mercy in Jesus the fruit is to see all people as loved by God, made in his image and bearers of his glory; of infinite value and dignity.
- This is the basis for gospel mercy: which is both an attitude of heart of kindness and forgiveness to others and also meeting physical needs.
- Being made in God's image is also the basis of Gospel Justice, which is to reject all manifestations of unfair discrimination.

CONNECT

- How do you think our Spring into Christmas Fair relates to James' teaching about us being a community of gospel justice and mercy?

STUDY

Read James 2:1-17

- "We tend to treat people according to how they make us feel about ourselves". Agree / disagree? Discuss this statement with reference to ch2:1-4.
- "Loving your neighbour as yourself" can sometimes be misunderstood, how does James explain the meaning of this command in V8-9?
- And how does your answer above relate to what James says in ch3:9? What is the basis for justice and mercy in relationships?

APPLY

- James relates being a community of justice to being those who reject unfair discrimination. Is there such a thing as fair discrimination? Examples? How do we decide what is fair and unfair?
- And how are discrimination and discernment similar/different?
- James relates being a community of mercy to meeting the physical needs of people. What obstacles and challenges do you see in the doing of mercy in this way in your own heart?
- James is very concerned that we are not only hearers of the word but also doers;
 - have each person in the group share one practical way that they are able to meet the physical needs of another.

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

- According to need.