

**The Book of James: Living Authentically  
“Playing Favorites”  
James 2:1-13 (CSB)**

Four realities about favorites:

- Everybody has a favorite.
- Everybody wants to be someone’s favorite.
- To be or have a favorite means someone else is unfavored.
- Disfavoring a class of people hurts you and them.

1. **The ground is level at the foot of the cross.** (James 2:1 CSB; Romans 2:11 CSB)

Social distinctions do not reflect spiritual realities. (1 Samuel 16:7 CSB)

The Church is an ***alternate society*** where everyone is ***level*** and everyone is ***loved***. (James 2:8 CSB)

2. **Choose mercy over judgment.** (James 2:13 CSB)