

BREAKING THE ICE

What was the biggest takeaway from your reading of James this week?

What's your story of baptism? If you haven't been baptized what has been keeping you from it?

MAIN CONTENT

This week we heard from our good friend Annie F. Downs. She told a story about returning a dress to her favorite store and doing the right thing.

1. Has doing the right thing been a struggle or easy for you in your life? Talk about a time when you did the right thing and you felt God through the process.

Annie told us, "Doing the right thing is not always the easy thing, but doing the right thing changes everything."

Read James 2

Annie continued to talk about favoritism. As followers of Jesus, we should not have favoritism. In the world, favoritism happens all the time but Jesus has no favorites.

2. How have you seen favoritism play out in your life?

Annie talked about faith and deeds and reminded us that our works are examples of what we believe. The way we act, treat others and live our lives are a reflection of what we believe. What we believe comes first and what we do finishes our faith.

3. How has your faith been playing out in your life? What would others say about the way you live out your faith and beliefs?

Annie reminded us about Abraham (Genesis 22) and Rahab (Joshua 2). They both did the right thing even though it was hard. These two stories in the Bible are of two different people: Abraham who was a man after God's heart and Rahab a prostitute who did what God said. God didn't show favoritism to Abraham over Rahab, he gave them both the same respect and honor they deserved because their faith and deeds trusted in Him.

4. What are some steps you need to take to eliminate favoritism in your life?

God is always calling us to more, to do the next right thing in our lives. It may not be easy, in fact it could be a pretty hard thing, but when we do act on the hard things He is asking us to do, He will be with us.

5. What is the next right thing God is asking you to do? How can you make a plan to do that thing this week?

CLOSING PRAYER

God, thank you for allowing us to be used by you. Thank you for the reminder to do the right thing even though it may be hard because you are with us. Show us what our next right thing is and give us the strength and courage to do it. Surround us with friends and people in our lives that can help us follow you and hear from you. Amen.

ACTION STEP

- +Continue following along with the James reading plan this week and the Movement Podcast to take a deeper dive into our Movement series at crosspoint.tv/movement.
- + Make a list, or share the list you made during Annie's message, of the next right things you need to do and ask God to help you accomplish that list. Share it with a trusted friend so they can continue to pray for you and help you follow what God is calling you to do.