

WHITFIELD PARISH

St James' Church † St Luke's Church

LIFE Group Notes w/b Sunday 20 September 2009

Walk the walk – James 2.1-13

1. Talk briefly together about what God has been saying to you recently.

What has that made you realise you should do? Have you already done it or do you need some encouragement to act on it?

Take a few minutes to pray with those who would like some encouragement for their actions.

If God has seemed silent, pray for Him to speak and for a listening ear.

2. Read v.1

Who does this verse suggest the following verses may be applicable to?

Read v.2-4

Some commentators suggest the scenario for v.2-4 is a Christian conflict resolution "hearing" with a poor plaintiff, others that it is simply a normal worship meeting with contrasting visitors.

3. Whichever interpretation of the context you may agree with, what are some implications for us as Christians today?

- as individuals
- as the church

4. How often do you meet people who you think can be "useful" to you?

What about people who you don't think will have any impact or influence on your life?

In v.5-7 what do these verses make you think about categorising people in that way (useful or not useful to me)?

5. Read v 8-13

What is your practical understanding of the royal law "love your neighbour as yourself"?

How good are we at keeping it?

Having thought about this, what have you been challenged to change; again, as individuals and as the church?

6. Meditate for a minute on v.12 & 13, especially the final sentence of v.13 "Mercy triumphs over judgement".