

Be Fair

Description

Leviticus 19:9-18.

It's difficult to watch the news without learning of someone expecting "special treatment" or someone who was unjustly treated. In a course I teach, I show a video of various people placed in similar scenarios that illustrates how differently they interact and treat those whom they consider poor versus those they consider influential. Time after time, in these social experiments, the poor are not treated as well as the more influential.

People tend to jump to negative conclusions about the poor or those who look different from them. In contrast, people are accommodating and give grace to those who are influential or look important.

However, God calls us to "not show partiality to the poor or favoritism to the great, but judge your neighbor fairly." Being fair seems like a very easy thing to do, but it can be more difficult than you might imagine. We all tend to be drawn to those with whom we identify and to reject those who are unfamiliar.

God, help us recognize our preconceived ideas and show your love and compassion to everyone, not just the people we identify with.

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