

Heavenly Wisdom vs Earthly Wisdom

James 3:13-18, December 9th, 2018

1.) Wisdom = The quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment. “_____” is possessing information. “_____” is knowing the proper response to that information.

2.) V:13 “Meekness” is not “_____”. Meekness comes not from cowardice or passivity but rather from _____ and therefore being set free from anxious self-promotion.

3.) The wisdom that comes from God (James 1:5) is not mere intellectual skill nor the collection of information, it is practical insight & spiritual understanding which expresses itself in _____.

4.) Bitter-envy and self-seeking is in direct contrast with the truth and wisdom of God. A so-called believer who confesses Christ as Lord and yet has bitterness and selfishness ruling his heart is lying against the _____.

5.) “Selfish ambition” = the ungodly habit of promoting one’s own interests above the purposes of _____ and the good of _____.

6.) God’s wisdom can *be seen by the fruit it produces*. It isn’t just the inner power to _____ and _____ about things the right way; it produces _____.

Notes: _____

Growth Group Discussion Questions

(Complete at home on separate sheet of paper if needed)

1.) Have you ever done something you thought was wise at the time but later discovered it was foolish or even sinful? Can you tell us?

2.) Has God ever given you His wisdom when you really needed it? Tell us about it.

3.) Read today’s text (James 3:13-18) How would you sum up the message in this text in your own words? Read this text in several other translations and discuss the various nuances brought out by each translation.

4.) What are the most striking contrasts between the wisdom of God and natural, earthly wisdom?

5.) Look up the following verses and as time permits, discuss how they apply to today’s text and how they should apply to your personal life. Psalms 37:30; 49:3; 51:6; 90:12; Proverbs 1:7; 4:5-13; 15:33; 16:16; James 4:1-8; 1Peter 2:11-12; Titus 3:9-11.

6.) Is there anything in today’s text that troubles or confuses you? Discuss.