

Week of December 4 - Wisdom from Above - Small Group Lesson Lesson 10

Connect

Where do people seek wisdom in general today? What are examples of good sources of wisdom, and what are some that are not? Why do you think today's society has become as it is now?

Verses - James 3:13-18 (CSB)

13 Who among you is wise and understanding? By his good conduct he should show that his works are done in the gentleness that comes from wisdom. 14 But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your heart, don’t boast and deny the truth. 15 Such wisdom does not come down from above but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. 16 For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there is disorder and every evil practice. 17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peace-loving, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without pretense. 18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who cultivate peace.

Study

1. Is James expecting an answer? Why or why not? How would you answer it if you were put on the spot? What has led up to this point that James would connect wisdom to works? (James 2:17-22, 26)

2. What poor conduct does James say is rooted in earthly, unspiritual, demonic wisdom? What other conduct does it lead to? (v.16) How is this resultant attitude even more so earthly, unspiritual, and/or demonic?

☕ **DISCUSS 1:** What are some examples of poor conduct? How could Godly wisdom have changed the outcome of such conduct? Would worldly knowledge have been effective in having a better conduct in this situation? (1 Corinthians 3:18-19)

🏃 **APPLY 1:** According to James, where does one get good conduct? What is the promise given earlier in this letter by him? How and when (timing) would you apply James 1:5 to the situation you mentioned in the Discuss 1 section? (Proverbs 9:10)

3. What does the wisdom from above contain? Why would it have such attributes? (example: Matthew 11:29-30)

☕ **DISCUSS 2:** What is the opposite of wisdom? How does the gospel affect foolishness and bring wisdom to man? (James 2:18; Psalm 14:1 Romans 16:25-27)

🏃 **APPLY 2:** How would you use the gospel to speak to a non-believer who is seeking wisdom? How would advising them to live Biblically help?

Share

Talk about a situation where faith in Jesus Christ gave you wisdom? What might have happened without it?

Grow

Minister to one another through sharing praise and specific prayer requests.

- Praise God for the wisdom given in times it was needed.
- Pray for us to know when to ask for wisdom through Jesus Christ!
- Help needed for nursery! Please contact - sumiko@tokyobaptist.org