

JAMES

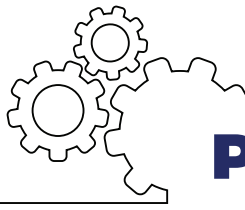
WORD TO THE WISE

Message Study Guide



PRAY READ EXPLORE: James 3:13-18

Message Notes:



PRAYREADEXPLORE

1 Pray, then read and explore the passage. Any notable observations or questions?

2 According to James, what is the difference between “heavenly” wisdom and earthly wisdom?

Where do you normally turn to gain wisdom?

What are the sources of earthly wisdom that are shaping our lives every day? How do these sources lead us toward jealousy, selfishness, etc.?

How do we access wisdom from above? where do we go?

What does society seem to honor more: wisdom or knowledge? Explain.

How do wisdom and common sense differ? Is wisdom attainable for everyone?

3 **James 3:16** says “for where there is envy and selfish ambition, there is disorder and every evil practice.” How have we seen James address this idea so far in his letter? (**James 2:1-12**) Why are envy and selfish ambition so destructive among God’s people? (**Galatians 5:20; Philippians 1:27; 2:3**)

4 Look at the list of words describing wisdom in **James 3:17**. Discuss how each descriptor impacts/works together for wisdom?

5 What do you believe it looks like to be full of mercy and good fruits (**James 3:17**)? Is there any connection between this verse and **Galatians 5:22-23**? What is the role of the Spirit in providing us wisdom?

6 In what ways are peacemaking and righteousness connected (**James 3:18**)?

APPLY *Think through a decision you are facing right now. Regardless of the size of the decision, think of a way to apply wisdom (rather than only knowledge) to that decision.*