Lesson 24 James 3:13-18

Where To Get Wisdom

*In this lesson James helps us to understand the source of quarrels and the sources of peace.*

1. In 3:13-18 James discusses earthly and heavenly wisdom. What are the characteristics of each?

13 Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show his works by a good life in the humility that comes from wisdom.

14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth.

15 Wisdom of this kind does not come down from above but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.

16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every foul practice.

17 But the wisdom from above is first of all pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits, without inconstancy or insincerity.

18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace.

2. How does earthly wisdom provoke problems and quarrels?

3. Challenge Question: Can you think of some biblical examples from the Old Testament of the folly of man's wisdom?

4. How can you tell when God's wisdom is at work?

5. In James vs. 13-18, what are the evidences of false wisdom?

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6. What would you say is the difference between James' description in 3:17 and being a doormat?

7. Which of the evidences of worldly wisdom would you like to see less of in your life?

8. What is the most important way to measure which wisdom is prevailing in ourselves and in our ministries?

9. Have you ever seen the kind of wisdom that comes from above help resolve a conflict? Explain.

10. In what way is the Christian life "a life of sowing and reaping"?