

HOW TO RELATE WISELY TO OTHERS
A Faith That Works Part 7
Group Discussion

GETTING STARTED:

Take a few minutes to catch up on each other's week and open with Prayer.

The text this week from James 3:13-18 is about true wisdom. What is the difference between knowledge and wisdom? How are they related and how are they different?

What occupations or jobs require lots of knowledge or training? What kinds of occupations or jobs require lots of wisdom or discernment?

READ JAMES 3:13-18

1. According to verse 13, what does James say is the evidence of wisdom? Who is someone you know that comes to mind when you think of that? How do they demonstrate that?
2. How does James characterize 'earthly wisdom'?
When have you followed earthly wisdom? What path did that take you down?
3. What does it mean to harbor "bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts"?
4. What is an area in your life in which you need to demonstrate more of God's wisdom?
5. Read the 7 traits of true wisdom in verse 17 again. What would you say is the difference between these traits and being a "doormat"?
6. Which of the fruits of true wisdom do you see in one another's life in your Life Group?
7. In what way can we help each other be wise?
8. James ends by saying, "Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness." What do you think this means?
9. What can you do this week to plant peace in a relationship or situation which has been troubling you?
10. Read James 4:13-17 (we won't be covering this in the sermon series). What do you see as the main point in this passage? Is James saying it is wrong to plan for the future? In what areas of your life do you need to turn your plans over to God's will?

For Personal reflection through the week:

- Do I respect the proud man of the world more than the humble believer in the Lord Jesus?
- Do I serve the Lord without caring who gets the credit?
- Do I sometimes use questionable means in order to get good results?
- Am I guilty of flattery in order to influence people?
- Do I harbor jealousy and resentment in my heart?
- Do I resort to sarcasm and unkind remarks?
- Am I pure in thought, in speech, and in deed?