



- We can have access to **God's** wisdom and continue to live by the **world's** wisdom. If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. James 1:5

Why does God want us to live with wisdom?

- Godly wisdom displays **spiritual maturity** and Christ-like behavior.

10 Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. 11 Can both fresh water and saltwater flow from the same spring? 12 My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water. James 3:9–12

13 If you are wise and understand God's ways, prove it by living an honorable life, doing good works with the humility that comes from wisdom. James 3:13

- Wisdom is the ability to know **how to apply** in our lives what we know to be true. 14 But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your heart, don't cover up the truth with boasting and lying. 15 For jealousy and selfishness are not God's kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic. 16 For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind. James 3:14–16

- The fruit of your wisdom reveals the **source** of your wisdom.

17 But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and the fruit of good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere. 18 And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness. James 3: 17–18

- Godly wisdom in us produces **Christ-like actions** from us.

Characteristics of godly wisdom:

- **Pure**, which means it starts with the right **heart** and the right **motives**.

For from the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, all sexual immorality, theft, lying, and slander. Matthew 15:19

Action Step:

- Before you respond to someone ask yourself: "What is **driving** me right now?"

- **Peace loving**, which means I'm **calm** within and **love** governs my heart.

I am leaving you with a gift, peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid. John 14:27

6 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. 7 Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6–7

Love is patient and kind... It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. 1 Corinthians 13:4–5

Action Step:

- Be the **thermostat**, not the **thermometer**.

- **Gentle**, which means your response to others is **under control**.

Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart... Matthew 11:29

A gentle answer deflects anger, but a harsh word makes tempers flare. Proverbs 15:1

Action Step:

- Choose your **response** before the moment chooses it for you.

- **Willing to yield to others**, which means I don't compromise the truth but I am **teachable**.

Fools think their own way is right, but the wise listen to others. Proverbs 12:15

Action Step:

- Practice the "**No defense**" rule.



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain.
- What's the difference between knowing God's wisdom and actually living by it?
- Where are you most tempted to follow the world's wisdom instead of God's?
- What does James 3:13 reveal about how wisdom should be demonstrated?
- What does your current "fruit" reveal about the wisdom shaping you?
- What might jealousy or selfish ambition look like in a Christian's life?
- What is currently driving your heart—God's glory, your desires, approval, fear, or something else?
- When conflict comes, are you more likely to be a thermometer or a thermostat? Why?
- What makes it difficult to remain gentle when you feel hurt or disrespected?
- How does Jesus' gentleness challenge the way you respond to difficult people?
- Why is being teachable a sign of spiritual maturity rather than weakness?
- Which characteristic of godly wisdom—pure, peace-loving, gentle, or teachable—does God most want to develop in you right now? Why?

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Today's Talk..



**The Wisdom That
Shows Our Faith**
(Part 1)

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Sunday, August 30th, 2026