



- We can know the wisdom of God without **displaying** the wisdom of God.

A divided heart produces **dead** faith and **destructive** wisdom.

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

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

Characteristics of godly wisdom: (from last week)

- Pure, which means it starts with the right **heart** and the right **motives**.
- Peace loving, which means we're **calm** within and **love** governs our heart.
- Gentle, which means our response to others is **under control**.
- Willing to yield to others, which means I don't compromise the truth but I am **teachable**.

A Characteristic of godly wisdom:

But the wisdom from above is full of mercy.... James 3:17a

- Full of Mercy, which means I'm not looking for what others **deserve**, but what they **need**.

Action Step:

- Don't look for what others deserve, but what they **need** from you.

But the wisdom from above is.... full of the fruit of good deeds. James 3:17a

- Full of good deeds, which means the activity of your life looks like **Jesus**.

Action Step:

- Look for one **need** and **meet** it.

But the wisdom from above ... shows no favoritism James 3:17b

- Shows no favoritism, which means we **value** people because they're made in the image of God.

Action Step:

- Look for the **image of God** in others.

But the wisdom from above is... always sincere. James 3:17b

- It's always sincere, which means we don't **pretend** we **genuinely** love.

Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Romans 12:9

Action Step:

- Make your love **tangible**.

18 And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness. James 3:18

- The way you treat people **today** shapes the relationships you have **tomorrow**.

Don't be misled: No one makes a fool of God. What a person plants, he will harvest. The person who plants selfishness, ignoring the needs of others—ignoring God!—harvests a crop of weeds. All he'll have to show for his life is weeds! But the one who plants in response to God, letting God's Spirit do the growth work in him, harvests a crop of real life, eternal life. Galatians 6:7-8 (MSG)

Blessed are the peacemakers. Matthew 5:9

To be a peacemakers:

- We need peace **with God** to have the peace of God.

1 ...since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. Romans 5:1 (NLT)

And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts....Colossians 3:15 (NLT)

- We make peace our personal **responsibility** and **priority**.

"If you're standing before the altar in the Temple, giving an offering to God, and you suddenly remember someone has something against you, leave your offering there beside the altar. **Go at once** and **first be reconciled** to that person. Then come and offer your gift to God." Matthew 5:23-24 (NLT)

- Seek to **understand**, before seeking to be understood.

...be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. James 1:19 (NLT)

- Deal with the **fear** that keeps you from peace.

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear... 1 John 4:18 (NIV)

Action Step:

Love deeper than the **difficulty**.

VISION:

**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 displaying God's wisdom?
- Which characteristic of godly wisdom in James 3:17 is hardest for you to live out? Why?
- When you're frustrated with someone, do you tend to focus more on what they deserve or what they need?
- What is one practical way you can make your love for someone tangible this week?
- Who is difficult for you to value, and how might seeing the image of God in them change your response?
- How can we tell when our "good deeds" are genuinely motivated by Jesus rather than recognition or obligation?
- What does sincere love look like when you disagree with someone?
- What kind of "seeds" are you currently planting in your closest relationships?
- Where do you tend to add tension instead of bringing peace?
- What fear keeps you from pursuing peace with someone?
- What does it look like to "love deeper than the difficulty,"?

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Today's Talk..



**The Wisdom That
Shows Our Faith**
(Part 2)

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