

Wisdom: What to do when you don't know what to do

Deep End Faith | March 20, 2022 | James 1:5-8 | Mike Foster

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord. He is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does

What is godly wisdom?

The God-given ability to see life from God's perspective and to do good in God's eyes (James 1:5, 3:13-18)

How to have godly wisdom?

Ask God for it (v. 5)

Admit you need wisdom

Know the source of wisdom

Know the heart of God

Believe God for it (vv. 6-8)

With a pure, whole heart

We preach Christ crucified... Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 1 Corinthians 1:23-24

Memory verse of the week: James 1:3

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. Who would you say is the wisest person you know? Why? What makes them wise?
3. Look at the definition of wisdom provided in your sermon notes. Do you agree with that definition? Is there anything you might change about it based on what God says about wisdom?
4. Read James 3:13-18. What do you observe about wisdom in these verses?
5. Spend some time reading Proverbs 1:20-2:22. What are some benefits you see of wisdom? What are some characteristics of those who reject wisdom? Of those who receive wisdom?
6. Read Proverbs 1:7. What is "the fear of the Lord" and why do you think it is described as the beginning of wisdom?
7. Consider the phrase that describes God – he "gives generously to all without finding fault." Do you ever feel as though God might not want to give you wisdom for reason? Why?
8. Do you tend to think of God as fault-finding or gracious? As tight-fisted or open-handed? Why? How does James, who grew up with Jesus, view God? What are the dangers of having the wrong view of God?
9. Have you ever been "double-minded" or "two-faced" in your approach to God – believing him at one moment while rejecting him in the next? How can we guard ourselves from functioning in this way?
10. Share about an area of your life where you need wisdom right now. Spend some time praying and asking God for wisdom, and believing together for God to give wisdom!

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

Read Proverbs 1 and 8, Job 28:12-28, Romans 11:33-36, 1 Corinthians 1:23-25, Colossians 1:28-2:3

Memorize James 1:3

Make a list of the attributes of God you can identify in the book of James

Read "The Wisdom of God" - <https://bit.ly/wisdomofgoddef>

Read "Christ, the Wisdom of God" – <https://bit.ly/christwisdom>

Read about Patrick and pray his prayer – <https://bit.ly/blessingstpatrick>

Listen to "Be Thou My Vision" – <https://bit.ly/bethoumyvisionsong>

Listen to "Christ be all around me" based on the prayer of St. Patrick – <https://bit.ly/christbeallaroundme>

How to Connect with James deeper:

- **Study -**

Read James once a week until Easter – pick up one of our Scripture Journals to help you.



- **Memorize -**

Memorize James using the Scripture Memory Fellowship App.

Aim for one verse – James 1:2 or 1:25

Aim for one passage – James 1:2-4

Aim for 10 key passages – James 1:2-4, 1:13-15, 1:19-20, 1:22-25, 2:1, 2:26, 3:9-10, 3:17-18, 4:7-8, 5:16

Aim for one chapter – James 1

Aim for the whole book?!



- **Join -**

Join or start a small group to discuss James: If you'd like to start one, please send an email to forcey-office@forcey.org



- **Invite -**

Prayerfully invite someone else to join us in our study of James – use our invite cards

- **Pray -**

Make a habit of kneeling in prayer, like James. Pray for wisdom from God.

Pick up a wristband to remind you that your faith was made for the deep end