

two wisdoms [James 3.13-18]

results:

who is wise and understanding?

who do you follow?

set an example

2 wisdoms

false wisdom

characteristics:

results:

wisdom that comes from heaven

characteristics:

check yourself

Do my attitudes and actions convey—

humility?

community?

environment of shalom?

humility attracts grace

[big questions]

Which kind of wisdom would others ascribe to you?

What kind of environment are you creating?

What needs to change?

Memorize this-

So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up, or quit. Right now, therefore, every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all, starting with the people closest to us in the community of faith.
-Galatians 6.9-10 (the Message)

two wisdoms: James 3.13-18
[going deeper]

What thought, idea or observation from this teaching did you find to be the most useful, encouraging, eye-opening or even troubling? Explain.

What characteristics do you look for and appreciate most in a leader? Why are those things so important? Who is the wisest person that you know? What do you see in that person that reveals true wisdom?

Read James 3.13-18

What are some of the things that stand out to you as James describes the two kinds of wisdom? Why would it be important that the people we follow possess the kind of wisdom that James endorses?

How do we identify that wisdom in people? How should we respond when we see that wisdom? How should we respond when we don't see that wisdom in people who are trying to lead?

Describe someone who possesses what James would call a false wisdom. Why would it be tempting to follow that kind of person? What happens when we do?

Describe someone who possesses what James would call true wisdom. What happens when we follow someone like that?

What, do you think, is the secret to gaining wisdom? How do we show that we are wise?

Who are the leaders in your life? Which kind of wisdom do they display? How can you encourage them to more and more of God's wisdom? Who do you lead? Which kind of wisdom do they see in you?

List all the fruits of earthly wisdom and all of the fruits of heavenly wisdom that James mentions in this passage. Compare and contrast them. How are they different? What are the results or consequences of each?

Fruits of earthly wisdom

Fruits of heavenly wisdom

Think about some tangible ways that we can acquire God's wisdom. Try to list at least ten ways and then circle the ones you regularly practice. Underline the ones that need to become a part of your daily life. What can you do, starting today, to become more passionate about pursuing God's wisdom?