
FAITH
JAMES 2:18 • 2013
LIVE IT OUT
THE BOOK OF JAMES
HILLVIEW BIBLE CHAPEL 2013

Faith, Live It Out…

- When You Encounter Trials 1:2-12
- In Facing Temptation 1:13-18
- By Obeying God's Word 1:19-27
- By Rejecting Partiality 2:1-9
- By Fulfilling the Law of Liberty 2:10-13
- By Showing it in Your Works 2:14-26
- By Controlling Your Tongue 3:1-12
- **By Practicing Godly Wisdom 3:13-18**

Faith, Live It Out By Practicing Godly Wisdom.

James 3: 13-18

Got wisdom?

What is wisdom?

Webster: "The power of judging rightly and following the soundest course of action based on knowledge, experience and understanding."

James describes two kinds of wisdom:

1) Godly wisdom from above 3:13 & 17, 18
2) Worldly wisdom from below 3:14 - 16

3:13 “Who among you is wise and understanding?”



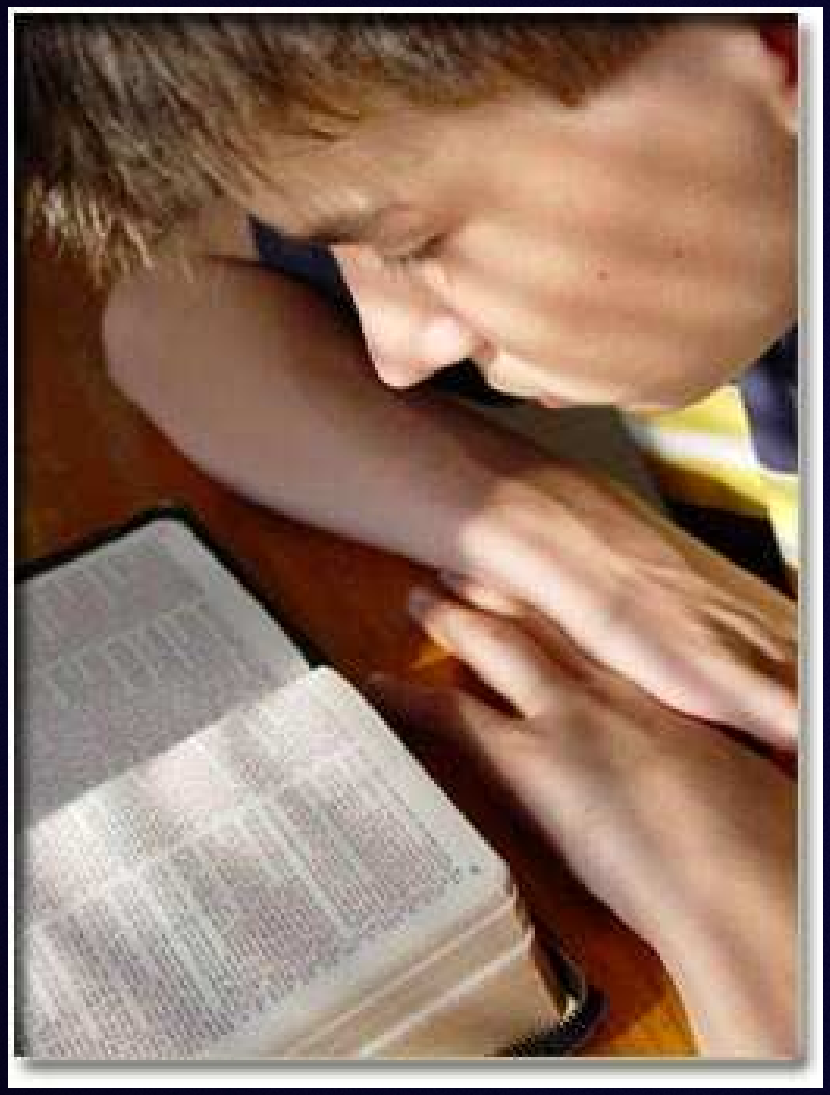








Wikimedia commons



"…attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, resulting in a true knowledge of God's mystery, that is Christ Himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."
Colossians 2:2,3

3:13 “…Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom.”

2:18 “But someone may *well* say, "You have faith, and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works.”

3:13 “…Let him show by his good behavior …”

“good” is derived from the Greek: *kalos*

Meaning: beautiful, handsome, excellent, choice, surpassing, precious, useful, suitable, commendable, admirable, magnificent, genuine, approved, praiseworthy.

3:13 “…his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom.”

Matt. 11:29 "Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls.”

Matt. 11:19 Jesus said, “…wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

3:14 “But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth.”

What is bitter jealousy?

A misplaced zeal for position, power, possessions, or privilege.

Some examples of envy from Scripture:

- Cain & Abel Gen. 4:1-8
- Sarah & Hagar Gen. 21:9-10
- Joseph's brothers Gen. 37
- Miriam & Moses Num. 12
- King Saul & David 1Sam 18-19
- The Jewish religious leaders & Jesus Christ

Some secular expressions of envy:

"If the grass is greener on the other side of the fence, you can bet the water bill is higher."

Debbie Macomber

"Nothing is as obnoxious as other people's luck."

F. Scott Fitzgerald

"To find out a girl's faults, praise her to her girlfriends."

Benjamin Franklin

"I admire Shakespeare enormously. But since I can't be him, I'm glad that his marriage was unhappy and he's dead."

Bauvard

1Cor. 3:3: “for you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men?

* Why do we envy others?

Fear that I won’t get what someone else has, or be valued as much as someone else is.

* How does envy feel?

Prov 14:30 “A sound heart is life to the body, But envy is rottenness to the bones.”

*How do we deal with envy?

- ❖ Recognize that envy is a highway to nowhere.
- ❖ Believe that you have everything you need to do what God wants you to do.
- ❖ Be glad others can do what you cannot do.
- ❖ Recognize that envy and love are enemies.

  1 Cor. 13:4

Martin De Haan

3:14 “But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth.”

3:15 “This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic.”

earthly: “For the wisdom of this world is foolishness before God” 1Cor. 3:19

natural: *psuchikos*. “But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.” 1Cor. 2:14

3:15 “This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic.”

demonic: Gen. 3:1-7

Vs 1 “Indeed has God said you shall not eat from any tree?”

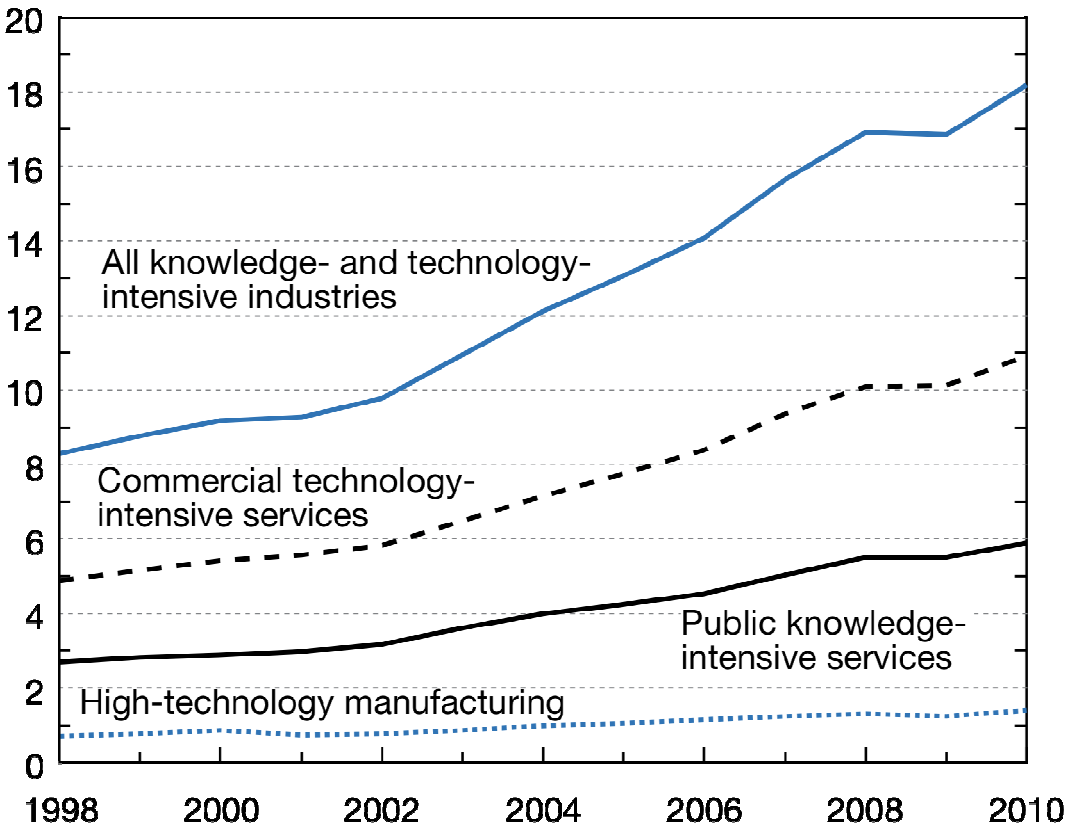
Vs 4 “You surely shall not die!”

Vs 5 “For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God…”

Vs 6 “When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate…”

James 3:16 “For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing.

Global value added of knowledge- and technology-intensive industries: 1998–2010



NOTE: Industries defined by Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

SOURCE: National Science Board, *Science and Engineering Indicators 2012*

3:17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy.

3:18 And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

What can we do to cultivate Godly wisdom in our lives?

1) Come to know the ultimate source of wisdom, Jesus Himself. Col.2:3 1Cor. 1:30.

2)Value wisdom. Prov. 3:13-15; 4:5-8

3) Have the right attitude to gain wisdom.

- Prov . 9:10 “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom”

- Prov. 11:2 “When pride comes, then comes dishonor, But with the humble is wisdom”

- Prov. 12:15 “The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But a wise man is he who listens to counsel.”

- Prov. 26:12 “Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.”

4) Ask for wisdom from God like Solomon did.

1Kings 3:5,9-12; James 1:5.

5)Spend time with wise people.

- Proverbs 13:20 “He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will suffer harm.”

- 1 Corinthians 15:33 “Do not be deceived: Bad company corrupts good morals.”

6) Apply God's Word in our lives.

Matt. 7:24-27



* What kind of foundation are we building on?



Faith, Live It Out By Practicing Godly Wisdom.

James 3: 13-18