



SCRIPTURE: James

SERIES: The Book of James

TITLE: Gospel Wisdom vs. Earthly Wisdom

BIG IDEA: Wisdom from above produces righteousness while Earthly wisdom produces evil.

TEXT

13 Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. 14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. 15 This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. 16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. 17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. 18 And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

SWARTZ FBC LEADER DISCUSSION GUIDE



13 Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom.

1. GOSPEL WISDOM IS REVEALED BY THE LIFE IT PRODUCES

Application Question: What is Gospel Wisdom producing in me?

- Why is good conduct the outcome and not knowledge?
- What is meant by the meekness of wisdom?
- What is wisdom? How does it differ from knowledge?

14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. 15 This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. 16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

2. EARTHLY WISDOM IS EXPOSED BY SELFISHNESS AND JEALOUSY

Application Question: Is my wisdom from above?

- In what ways does earthly wisdom produce jealousy and selfishness?
- What is the difference between earthly and Godly wisdom?
- What does it mean for Earthly wisdom to be demonic?
- How does this passage explain the outcome of a heart guided by earthly wisdom?

17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. 18 And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

3. GOSPEL WISDOM SOWS AND REAPS

Application Question: Is God's wisdom in my life manifesting in the lives of those around me?

- What is the practical progression from wisdom to action in a believer's life?
- The passage says in essence that Gospel wisdom is harvest oriented. What are clear and practical examples of the harvest brought about by Gospel wisdom?
- What are practical ways in which we can intentionally pursue Gospel wisdom and guard against earthly wisdom?