Steadfastly wise

SMALL GROUP NOTES

Tom Shaw 7 April 2013

Theme

Last Sunday saw us continue our Steadfast series looking at the topic of wisdom.

Scriptures

James 3: 13-4:6(a)

Outline

Tom led us through the above passage showing us two types of wisdom James unpacks. The first is a Demonic Wisdom that results in pride and division. The second is a Heavenly wisdom that results in us living as God has called us to.

Questions for discussion

I. Tom used a helpful table from the book the emotionally healthy church (see below) as a group work through each point and discuss which side do you sit?

Proud & Defensive	Broken & Vulnerable
I am guarded & protective about my imperfections and flaws.	I. I am transparent & weak; I disclose myself to appropriate others
2. I focus on the "positive", strong, successful parts of myself.	2. I am aware of the weak, needy, limited parts of who I am and I freely admit failure.
3. I am highly "offendable" and defensive.	3. I am approachable and open to input.
4. I naturally focus first on the flaws, mistakes, and sins of others.	4. I am aware of my own brokenness. I have compassion and am slow to judge others.
5. I give my opinion a lot, even when I am not asked.	5. I am slow to speak and quick to listen.

- 2. How has the Heavenly wisdom of God changed your life?
- 3. Look at the characteristics laid out James 3:17-18, which of these would you wish to grow in over the next year?