I AM WHO I AM - Wisdom

Icebreaker: Other than God, who is/was the wisest person you know? How are they wise and what made them that way?

...to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen. (Rom. 16:27)

In what area of your life could you use a little wisdom right now? *God's wisdom is...*

- *Exclusively <u>infinite</u> "Great is our Lord and mighty in power; His understanding has no limit." (Psalm 147:5)*
- Humanly <u>incomprehensible</u> "Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable His judgments, and His paths beyond tracing out!" (Rom. 11:33) What incomprehensible thing in life would you like to ask God to explain?
- Revealed in <u>Jesus</u> "It is because of Him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption." (1 Cor. 1:30) According to this passage, what does it mean to be "in Christ Jesus?"
- **Recorded in** <u>Scripture</u> "The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple." (Psalm 19:7) Based on Psalm 19:7, What is required to "make wise the simple?"
- <u>Given</u> when asked for "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." (James 1:5) Have you ever asked for wisdom? Retell the scenario and the outcome?

Wisdom is not just <u>knowledge</u> (know-about), it is <u>skillful practice</u> (know-how) – "Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom." (James 3:13)

Therefore...

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. (Prov. 9:10)

In an honest assessment of yourself, answer the following questions to get a gauge on where you are at being wise and understaning.

- Who do you fear more, God or man?
- How would you rate your knowledge of the Holy One?

Wisdom from "<u>above</u>" always brings "<u>godliness</u>" below (James 3:17)

- *Maintain your <u>morality</u> "...wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure..."*
- Manage your <u>anger</u> "...then peace-loving..."
- <u>Gentle</u> with others "...considerate..."
- Willing to listen and learn "...submissive..."
- <u>Compassionate</u> toward others "...full of mercy and good fruit..."
- Fair and transparent "...impartial and sincere."

Name one or two of the bullets above that you could do better at applying to your life.

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock." (Matt. 7:24)

What might be something that is coming up in the coming weeks and how could you submit that plan to the Lord by applying some of the bullets you identified in the list above? Share it with the group.