

James: Faith/Works Pt. 6

August 15, 2021

Wisdom Acts

“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. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a **FOOLISH** man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

Matthew 7:24-27 (NIV)

Wisdom – discerning and acting on what God would do in a situation.

James 3:13-18 (CEV)

“Are any of you wise or sensible? Then show it by living right and by being humble and wise in everything you do.”

“But if your heart is full of bitter jealousy and selfishness, don’t brag or lie to cover up the truth. That kind of wisdom doesn’t come from above. It is earthly and selfish and comes from the devil himself.”
“Whenever people are jealous or selfish, they cause trouble and do all sorts of cruel things.

“Real wisdom is pure, then peaceful, then considerate. It is not defensive, full of mercy and helpful, impartial and free from hypocrisy. When _____ plant **SEEDS OF PEACE**, they will harvest JUSTICE.”

Two Kinds of Wisdom

1. Worldly Wisdom – Rooted in selfish promotion and preservation.

- **Root:** Devil himself, flourishes in an unregenerate, un-surrendered heart.
- **Fruit:** bitterness, envy, deception, betrayal, manipulation, shaming, steals, kills, destroys, disorder and every evil practice.

2. Kingdom Wisdom – discerning and acting on what God would do in a situation.

- **Root:** God’s Word and Character, flourishes in a regenerated heart, surrendered to the Lordship of Christ.
- **Fruit:** pure; peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy, impartial, sincere.

“Real wisdom is pure, then peaceful, then considerate. It is not defensive, full of mercy and helpful, impartial and free from hypocrisy. When **PEACEMAKERS** plant seeds of peace, they will harvest JUSTICE (reap righteousness).”

James 3:17-18 (CEV)

Six Seeds to Plant for Peaceful Relationships (R. Warren)

Seed #1: If I’m Wise, I Won’t _____ the Truth

“Real wisdom is first of all PURE.” James 3:17

- “The Lord delights in pure words.” Prov. 15:26 (NLT)
- “God wants us to grow up, to know the whole truth and to tell it in love.” Eph. 4:15 (Mes)

Seed #2: If I'm wise, I won't _____ your anger

"Real wisdom is . . . **PEACEFUL**."

- "Any fool can start arguments: the wise thing is to stay out of them." Prov. 20:3 (TEV)
- "A wise man controls his temper. He knows that anger causes mistakes." Prov. 14:29 (LB)

Seed #3: If I'm wise, I won't _____ your feelings

"Real wisdom is . . . **CONSIDERATE** (courteous, gentle with people)"

- "We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. For even Christ did not please himself but, as it's written, 'The insults of those who insulted you fell on me.'" Rom. 15:1-3 (NIV)
- "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ." Gal. 6:2 (NIV)

Seed #4: If I'm wise, I won't _____ your suggestions

"Real wisdom is . . . **NOT DEFENSIVE** (allows discussion, willing to yield to others)"

- Greek = reasonable "open to reason" (RSV)
- "A fool thinks he needs no advice, but a wise man listens to others." Prov. 12:15 (LB)

Seed #5: If I'm wise, I won't _____ your mistakes

"Real wisdom is **FULL OF MERCY AND HELPFUL**."

- "Love forgets mistakes; nagging about them parts the best of friends." Prov. 17:9 (LB)
- "Kind words bring life, but cruel words crush your spirit." Prov. 15:4

Seed #6: If I'm wise, I won't _____ our differences

"Real wisdom is **FREE FROM PREJUDICE AND HYPOCRISY**."

- Greek = "no hidden prejudice & no hypocrisy"
- "Show proper respect to everyone." 1 Peter 2:17 (NIV)
- "Accept one another ... just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God." Rom. 15:7 (NIV)

A Life God Rewards

Jesus: "Blessed are the _____, for they are the ones that God will call his children."

Matt 5:9(NIV)
