



*Closing the Gap Between Belief and Behavior!*

*November 9, 2025 – The Book of James*

*Close the Gap with God's Wisdom!*

James 3:13-18 (ESV)

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

<sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth.

<sup>15</sup>This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.

<sup>16</sup>For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

<sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.

<sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

## ***Wisdom is known by its fruit!***

*(James 3:13)*

*Wisdom – skillful, Biblical understanding and applications to life.  
“An understanding of the ultimate issue”*

*Also see Daniel 1:20; Acts 6:3,10; Ephesians 3:10*

## ***Two kinds of wisdom:***

### **> Traits of man's wisdom**

*James 3:14-16; 1 Cor. 1:17-31; 2 Cor. 2:1-8*

*Also Isaiah 55:8-9; Proverbs 14:12; 16:25*

### **> Traits of God's wisdom**

*James 3:17-18; Romans 5:1; Galatians 5:22; John 14:27; Phi. 4:6-7;  
Eph. 4:1-3*

Isaiah 55:8-9,

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.

<sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

*1 Corinthians 1:23*

*but we preach Christ crucified,*

*Proverbs 9:10*

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,  
and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.*

## ***--- Revelation Demands Response ---***

**To gain wisdom:**

### **1. Fear the Lord!**

*Proverbs 9:10; James 1:5*

“The fear of the LORD” ultimately expresses reverential submission to the Lord's will and thus characterizes a true worshiper. (Dr. Allan Ross, EBC)

### **2. Ask and seek it from Him!**

*James 1:5; Proverbs 2:1-8,*

*In reverential submission and honor, ask Him for wisdom!*

*Application questions on the back →*

--- *Close the gap with God's wisdom!* ---

November 9, 2025

**SUNDAY after church...**

Think through your morning and: 1) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you were able to give! 2) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you received! 3) List songs or lyrics that touched your heart.

**MONDAY**

**READ** Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTED** God tells us that wisdom is visible through our deeds (James 3:13; Matthew 11:19). How is this a little intimidating? Why is it not a private matter?

**PRAY:** Pray over your observations and applications.

**TUESDAY**

**READ** Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** Read the traits of man's wisdom in James 3:14-16 and other passages mentioned. Think about our world. Do these traits show true in our fallen world? Can you think of times when you have operated by man's wisdom. Were these traits true then?

**Pray:** Pray over your applications.

**WEDNESDAY**

**READ** Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** Read through the traits of God's wisdom in James 3:17-18. Can you think of a person and or situation when they operated with God's wisdom and you saw these traits? How about in your own life? **Pray:** Pray over your applications.

**THURSDAY and FRIDAY**

**READ** Sunday's verses. **DISCUSSION STARTER:** In 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 and 2 Corinthians 2:1-8 when talking about wisdom, Paul points us to "Christ crucified". Write out why it isn't just Christ, but twice Paul says, "Christ crucified". Why is the cross so vital to God's wisdom? Write out your answer.

**Pray:** Pray over your applications.

**SATURDAY**

**Prepare** your heart for Sunday's gathering by being ready to fully engage in the worship.