

Bible Study Handout: James 3:13-18 (NKJV)

Opening Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we come before You today seeking wisdom from Your Word. Open our hearts and minds to understand the difference between earthly and heavenly wisdom. Help us to walk in humility and peace, reflecting Your love in our daily lives. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Scripture Passage: James 3:13-18 (NKJV)

13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom. 14 But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. 15 This wisdom does not descend from above but is earthly, sensual, demonic. 16 For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. 17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. 18 Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Study and Discussion

I. Two Kinds of Wisdom

1. According to James 3:13, how should a wise person demonstrate their wisdom?
Answer: By their _____ and _____ in the meekness of wisdom.
2. What are the characteristics of earthly wisdom mentioned in James 3:14-16?
Answer: _____, _____, _____, and every evil thing.
3. What are the characteristics of heavenly wisdom according to James 3:17?
Answer: _____, _____, _____, willing to yield, full of _____, and good _____, without _____ and without _____.
4. What does James 3:18 say is the result of practicing godly wisdom?
Answer: The fruit of _____ is sown in _____ by those who make _____.

Discussion Questions

1. How can we distinguish between earthly wisdom and godly wisdom in our daily decisions?
2. Have you ever experienced a time when earthly wisdom led to confusion or trouble? How did you recognize it?

3. Why is humility an important part of true wisdom?
4. What are some practical ways we can cultivate godly wisdom in our relationships and work?
5. In what areas of life do you need to apply godly wisdom more intentionally?

Key Takeaways

- Earthly wisdom leads to disorder, while godly wisdom produces peace and righteousness.
- True wisdom is shown through humility and good conduct, not self-seeking ambition.
- Heavenly wisdom reflects God's character—pure, peaceable, gentle, and merciful.
- We are called to be peacemakers, sowing righteousness through godly wisdom.

Closing Prayer:

Lord, we thank You for the wisdom found in Your Word. Help us to reject earthly wisdom and seek the wisdom that comes from above. Teach us to walk in humility, peace, and righteousness. May our lives reflect Your love and truth. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Memory Verse:

“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.” – James 3:17 (NKJV)