

# LIFEGROUP

## STUDY ON JAMES 3:13-18

*These LifeGroup questions are structured to allow for deeper discussions following on from the Sunday sermon on the book of James. Please don't limit yourself to just these questions, feel free to ask more questions as the Spirit leads. But please don't feel you have to answer all of them either. May the Spirit lead you and your group to dig deeper into knowing more about God.*

### WARMING UP: ICEBREAKER GAME

*Read the statements below and figure out which of them are worldly words of wisdom and which are biblical words of wisdom.*

*Answers are on the following page.*

1. "The one who knows much says little; an understanding person remains calm."
2. "Become wise by walking with the wise; hang out with fools and watch your life fall to pieces."
3. "A woman is like a beautiful flower."
4. "Unrelenting disappointment leaves you heartsick, but a sudden good break can turn life around."
5. "Strong minds discuss ideas, average minds discuss events, weak minds discuss people."
6. "So small at first, then look how they grow."
7. "It takes a great deal of courage to see the world in all its tainted glory, and still to love it."
8. "...regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it."
9. "What a person desires is unfailing love; better to be poor than a liar."
10. "Fear leads to anger. Anger leads to hate. Hate leads to suffering."

### GETTING INTO THE PASSAGE

1. How does society view someone who is wise?
2. Is this portrayal any different to how the bible describes someone who is wise? How can we tell the difference?
3. How can we discern what is biblical wisdom and what is worldly wisdom?

### READ JAMES 3:13-18

4. Define "meekness" from verse 13
5. What is the difference between wisdom and knowledge? Please give some examples.
6. The author gives us an extensive list of what wisdom isn't. What do they mean? What do you think was the intent of the author to list these things? v14-16
7. Do you think there are ways in which our church battle with selfish ambition? Or any of the negative things listed? Why?
8. In what ways or which areas of your life do you battle with jealousy and selfish ambition?
9. How should we deal with competitiveness/rivalry?
10. James gives us a list of what wisdom is. What are they? Why do you think these were listed?
11. Using the list of what wisdom is, which thing do you need God to work on for you, the most?

### MOVING FORWARD IN PRAYER

Spend some time praying over the list (both the negative and positive ones), asking God to help you and those around you, with regards to those things, so that you can be a harvest of righteousness.

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- Answers to icebreaker questions
1. Biblical: "The one who knows much says little; an understanding person remains calm;" Proverbs 17:27 (MSG)
  2. Biblical: "Become wise by walking with the wise; hang out with fools and watch your life fall to pieces;" Proverbs 13:20 (MSG)
  3. Worldly: "A woman is like a beautiful flower;" Britney Spears
  4. Biblical: "Unrelenting disappointment leaves you heartsick, but a sudden good break can turn life around;" Proverbs 13:12 (MSG)
  5. Worldly: "Strong minds discuss ideas, average minds discuss events, weak minds discuss people;" Socrates
  6. Worldly: "So small at first, then look how they grow;" Grandma Willow from the Pocahontus
  7. Worldly: "It takes a great deal of courage to see the world in all its tainted glory, and still to love it" Oscar Wilde
  8. Biblical: "...regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it;" Colossians 3:14b (MSG)
  9. Biblical: "What a person desires is unfailing love; better to be poor than a liar" Proverbs 19:22 (NIV)
  10. Worldly: "Fear leads to anger. Anger leads to hate. Hate leads to suffering;" Yoda