

PASTOR'S BLOG April 9, 2020 SEEKING WISDOM

James 1:5-8; 18-20; 3:13-18

I. THE SOURCE OF WISDOM

James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

1. **All Wisdom Comes From God** who as the hymn says: *Immortal, invisible, God only wise, In light inaccessible hid from our eyes, Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.*
2. **God Freely Gives Wisdom To All Who Ask**
3. **The One Requirement is that we ask without doubting...** To doubt means to be of two minds; torn between two opinions.

The one area we need wisdom most desperately is in asserting self-control over our emotions. We are short on patience, especially under the strains of the covid-19 mitigation guidelines. We are prevented from going where we want, seeing who we want and doing what we want. We have lost money, time at work, time with friends and loved ones and we have often lost our patience with lack of a quick fix and being uncertain about our future.

II. The Result of Wisdom

19 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

1. It takes wisdom to listen to all the information we are bombarded with daily.
2. It takes wisdom to give each other grace when they irritate us, when they make mistakes, when they fail to live up to our expectations.
3. It takes wisdom to measure our words to others and to not react to their response to us.
4. It takes wisdom to control our anger because it is often birthed by our fears.

III. THE POWER OF A WISDOM LED LIFE

13 Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. 14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. 15 This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. 16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

1. The Characteristics' of A Self-Centered Life

Jealous of other's and their success; Bitter at God and others whom they feel has kept them down; Out to meet their own needs at all costs they sow disorder and chaos where ever they go.

17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. 18 And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

2. The Life Of Wisdom

Selfless, Gentle, Reasonable, Teachable, Merciful, Does well to others, Just, Truthful and Peaceable.

Jesus,

Make us wise, in how we use our words, in our dealing with others, in planning our futures, and in all we say and all we do. Amen