



Week Five: James 3:13-18

“Two Kinds of Wisdom”

Reading and Study Guide for the
week of Oct. 8-15, 2023

Memory Verse for the Book of James: *“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” (James 1:22)*

This week, read James 3:13-18. Some questions to answer and think about this week with your family or Community Group:

1. What kinds of jobs or occupations require wisdom or discernment?
2. How can a person demonstrate wisdom and understanding? ([3:13](#))
3. What is wrong with the "wisdom" of a selfish and bitter person? ([3:14-15](#))
4. From where does the "wisdom" of a selfish and bitter person come? ([3:15](#))
5. What are the qualities of the wisdom that comes from heaven? ([3:17](#))
6. How does a wise person act? ([3:17-18](#))
7. What life experiences increase our wisdom?
8. How can we get or experience heavenly wisdom?
9. What can you do this week to seek God’s wisdom?

Life Application Bible Notes

[3:13-18](#) Have you ever known anyone who claimed to be wise but who acted foolishly? True wisdom can be measured by a person's character. Just as you can identify a tree by the type of fruit it produces, you can evaluate your wisdom by the way you act. Foolishness leads to disorder, but wisdom leads to peace and goodness. Are you tempted to escalate the conflict, pass on the gossip, or fan the fire of discord? Careful, winsome speech and wise, loving words are the seeds of peace. God loves peacemakers ([Matthew 5:9](#)).

[3:14, 15](#) Bitter jealousy and selfish ambition are inspired by the devil. It is easy for us to be drawn into wrong desires by the pressures of society and sometimes even by well-meaning Christians. By listening to the advice: "Assert yourself," "Go for it," "Set high goals," we can be drawn into greed and destructive competitiveness. Seeking God's wisdom delivers us from the need to compare ourselves to others and to want what they have.

James Study Guide questions and notes are from

