

Sermon: Real Wisdom. Real Faith.
Series: James: Real Wisdom, Real Faith.

Scripture: James 1:5-8.
Date: September 12, 2021

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1) What does this passage teach us about God?

a) How is God described in these verses? Is this how you see God? How are you encouraged by this description of God?

b) Why does all wisdom have to begin with knowing God? - Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. (Hint: think about the connection of truth or reality to wisdom).

2) What does this passage teach us about us?

a) James warns us about being “double-minded.” Is there any area of your life where you are “doubting” (disputing, arguing, contending with God), unstable (like a stormy sea), or double-minded – living two different lives – one with God and one without?

b) We talked about the cycle of true wisdom: 1) Fear God 2) Conform to the character of Christ 3) Live in faith 4) Make decisions 5) Repeat.

Think about a trial in your life. How is the wisdom cycle playing out in your trial? Are you trying to make decisions without the first three steps?

3) What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) Read Colossians 2:3 and 2:9-10. Real wisdom leads to fullness (maturity). In Christ we have him as our wisdom (2:3) and our fullness (2:9-10). How does this truth allow us to suffer and face trials with the wisdom of faith?

APPLICATION

a) What do you pray for? Do you only pray that your circumstances might change or do you ask first and foremost for wisdom?

FIGHTER VERSES: James 1:16-22.

PRAYER

- Praise God for his generous heart that freely gives wisdom.
- Confess ways that you have lived a double-minded life.
- Thank Jesus for being your wisdom and your fullness.
- Ask God to empower you live in his wisdom cycle.