



REVIEW: Living Faith Reflects True Wisdom (James 3:13–18)

Reflect on what James teaches about the difference between worldly and godly wisdom—and the kind of life each produces.

Read:

Take time to slowly read these passages:

- **James 3:13–18** – Let each phrase describe the kind of life God desires for you.
- **Proverbs 3:13–18** – The value and beauty of true wisdom.
- **Galatians 5:22–23** – The fruit of the Spirit compared to the fruit of worldly wisdom.
- **Isaiah 32:17** – The result of righteousness is peace.

Reflect:

What kind of wisdom am I living by?

- Do I pursue wisdom to bless others or to elevate myself?
- Is my conduct marked by meekness—or masked by cleverness and control?
- Where do I see signs of bitter envy or selfish ambition in my thinking, relationships, or leadership?

Examine the eight traits of godly wisdom in James 3:17:

- Which of these traits best describe the way I approach others?
- Which of these do I tend to excuse or overlook in myself?
- How do these traits reflect the heart and character of Jesus?

Reread verse 18 slowly.

- What does it mean to sow *the fruit* of righteousness?
- How can I contribute to a place where others grow in peace and maturity?
- Who has sown peace and righteousness into my life—and how can I do the same?

Apply:

- Consider one relationship or environment where you tend to rely on worldly wisdom. This week, ask God for wisdom from above—and intentionally practice peace, gentleness, mercy, or humility in that space.
- Choose one of the eight traits in verse 17 and make it your *focus prayer and practice* this week.

Pray:

Ask God to help you **reject worldly wisdom** and **walk in wisdom from above**.

- **Confession:**

“Lord, I often operate with the world’s wisdom—competitive, prideful, and self-serving. Forgive me for the damage it causes.”

- **Dependence:**

“I cannot produce peace and righteousness without Your Spirit. Fill me with wisdom from above.”

- **Surrender:**

“Make me a peacemaker. Let my life reflect purity, gentleness, and mercy so that others experience You through me.”

PREVIEW: Living Faith Confronts Our Desires (James 4:1–10)

James now shifts from the fruit of our wisdom to the root of our conflict—what’s really going on inside us.

Read ahead:

- **James 4:1–10** – Where do quarrels and conflict come from?
- **Matthew 5:9** – The blessing of being a peacemaker.
- **1 Peter 5:5–6** – Humility as the way to true exaltation.

Think Ahead:

James is going to shift from the fruit of wisdom to the source of conflict.

We’ll be asking:

- Where do fights and quarrels really come from?
- Why do we often feel frustrated, restless, or spiritually dry?
- What does true repentance and submission to God look like?

Journal Prompt:

- Where in my life am I experiencing conflict—and what might be at the root of it?
- Am I more eager to be right or to be righteous?
- What would it look like for me to submit fully to God and resist the enemy’s influence?