

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.

Nov 2017

FAITH IN ACTION: #6: TWO KINDS OF WISDOM

INTRODUCTION

Who do you know that is “wise” but doesn’t use his or her wisdom in a Godly way? Why?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Read James 3:13-18

Note: True wisdom creates right relationships between people. It reaches out to the unfortunate in practical ways. It is honest and genuine, willing to listen, learn and yield when convicted.

1. What is the difference between Godly wisdom and earthly wisdom? **Mic 6:9; Prov 3:7; Prov 4:7; Prov 24**
2. How can we tell if a person is wise? (13; 17; 18) Is wisdom is more intellectual or behavioral?
3. How does wisdom create humility? (13)
4. What damage can bitter envy do to a person? **Gen 3:1-5**

Note: Bitter (v. 14) is the same word to describe brackish water unfit for human consumption.

5. What's wrong with boasting about selfish ambition? (14)
6. What wisdom comes from "below"? (14-15) **Gal 5:19-21**
7. What two qualities indicate a lack of wisdom? (16)
8. Compare the Godly wisdom described in verses 13, 17 & 18 to the worldly wisdom described in verses 14-16. Which one is like your office and home environment? Why?
9. What happens when people plant seeds of peace? (18) Why?
10. What are practical ways to sow seeds of peace? **Rom 14:19; Hos 10:12, Isa 32:17**
11. How might the desire to "keep the peace" cause someone to avoid the "truth"? **Eph 4:15**

APPLICATION

- What can you do this week to seek God's wisdom?
- What do you need to do to plant peace in a relationship or situation that's been troubling you?

Why was America discussing values in the nineties? It is because we were moving away from underlying values that molded our nation. The inevitable result of this trend is clear from history: When there are no (Godly) values, the society falls apart.

One of the surprise best sellers from the eighties was Alan Bloom’s *The Closing of the American Mind*. Bloom’s thesis is revealed in the subtitle: “How Higher Education Has Failed Democracy and Impoverished the Souls of Today’s Students.” Bloom makes a strong case that the current decline in education has been caused by a senseless society. He castigates modern education relativity rather than truth. Educators, he says, no longer distinguish between right and wrong, not only out of fear of lawsuits but also because they themselves can’t make the distinction. Bloom contends they see the world through fog-shrouded glasses. (Perhaps they have "worldly" wisdom.)

Make a Life, Not Just a Living. Dr. Ron Jensen