

groups

Study Group: Leader Guide
Show Me: Part 8 - James 3:13-18
September 2nd-8th

CHECK-IN

*An opportunity to show authentic community as we **share the struggles** and **celebrate the victories** we've experienced in the last week.*

STUDY

Main Topics: Wisdom, God's Word vs, Worldly Opinions,

Read James 3:13-18

- How is the world's definition of wisdom different from Scripture's?
- What are typical pieces of godly wisdom that the world thinks are foolish? (see Leader Notes)
- How does Genesis 3:1-7 paint a clear picture of what wisdom from the devil (demonic wisdom) looks like? (see Leader Notes)
- This passage should remind us of James 1. How does James 1:5 encourage us to seek wisdom?
- Why do jealousy and selfish ambition lead to "disorder and every vile practice"?
- How does Matthew 5:3-12 support what James' says wisdom looks like in verse 17?
- Are there any other passages from Scripture that can help us understand and pursue godly wisdom? (see Leader Notes)

APPLY

- Who has exemplified godly wisdom in your life?
 - What characteristics mark his or her life?
- What's the difference between knowing facts and possessing godly wisdom?
- When have you been deceived into thinking worldly wisdom was godly wisdom?
- How do we cultivate godly wisdom in our lives?
- If godly wisdom should lead to the characteristics we see in verse 17, then how wise are you? Take a minute to consider what your life looks like.
- Which of the 8 characteristics in verse 17 do you struggle with the most?
- When have you seen worldly wisdom lead to destruction?
- When have you seen godly wisdom lead to peace and right action?

CLOSE

Which attributes of God did you see in this week's passage? How should it change the way that you pray, think, speak or act this week?

Leader Notes:

- What are typical pieces of godly wisdom that the world thinks are foolish?
 - Give away your money to the poor.
 - Do not seek to exalt (assert, promote, advance) yourself but instead deny yourself.
 - Only have sex with your spouse.
 - Submit your life to God's commands rather than submitting to your desires and feelings.
- How does Genesis 3:1-7 paint a clear picture of what wisdom from the devil (demonic wisdom) looks like?
 - During the interaction between Eve and the serpent we get a very clear view of the "wisdom" that the devil tempts us with. His wisdom is that by rejecting God's boundaries on our lives we too will become like Him and reach a level of knowledge that we couldn't have without rebelling against Him.
 - It is a wisdom that is completely centered on the self rather than in trusting the Word that God has spoken to us. The Devil's downfall was his own exaltation and likewise, ours is the same. When we seek to make a pedestal for ourselves instead of submitting to God's higher and fuller wisdom (Isaiah 55:8-9), we bring destruction, not freedom, upon ourselves.
- Additional Passages on Godly Wisdom
 - 1 Kings 3:7-9
 - 1 Corinthians 1:18-19, 30
 - Proverbs

Reminders to Leaders:

- This guide is to help you facilitate discussion with your Study Group.
- Use it as a resource to lead your group in discovering and owning the truths of God's Word.
- There may be questions you do not want to use and there may be instances where you just want to focus on a particular point or truth.
- Some questions may bring out emotions and cause people to dwell on their relationship with God. Your role is to **facilitate this experience, not to complete** the discussion guide.

What are Groups?

Groups at Boca Community fall into 1 of 3 categories: Study, Serve or Outreach. Each group consists of 8-16 people who encourage, challenge and care for one another as they walk through life together.

A full list of Groups can be found at bocacommunity.org/groups