

Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?

**Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.
James 1:1-12**

EARTHLY WISDOM VERSUS HEAVENLY WISDOM
James 3:13-18

Main Thought: In James 3:13-18, we discover a maturing follower of Jesus Christ does not display the characteristics of earthly wisdom but of heavenly wisdom.

1. CHARACTERISTICS OF _____
_____ (vv 14-16)

- 1) _____ and _____ ambition
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) Of the _____
- 5) _____
- 6) _____ and _____

2. CHARACTERISTICS OF _____ WISDOM
(vv 17-18)

- 1) Comes from _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____ - _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____
- 6) Full of _____ and _____ fruit
- 7) _____
- 8) _____
- 9) Results in _____

3. _____ DO WE _____ HEAVENLY WISDOM? (v 13)

- 1) _____ (Psalm 111:10)
- 2) _____ (1 Cor. 1:30)
- 3) _____ (Colossians 3:16)
- 4) _____ (James 1:5)
- 5) A truly _____ person is _____.
(James 3:13; 4:6)

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS

1. Read James 3:13-18.

2. What is wisdom?

3. How does James suggest someone with wisdom express or show it? (v 13)

4. What are the characteristics of “earthly wisdom” according to James?

5. How would you define those characteristics in your own words?

- 1) bitter envy
- 2) selfish ambition
- 3) earthly
- 4) unspiritual
- 5) of the devil

6. What are some biblical examples of the folly of earthly wisdom? (i.e. Gen. 11; 1 Cor. 1:18-31)

7. Can you give some modern day examples of the folly of earthly (human) wisdom?

8. What are the results of “earthly wisdom”? (v 16)

9. What are the characteristics of “heavenly wisdom”?

10. How would you define those characteristics in your own words?

- 1) pure
- 2) peace-loving
- 3) considerate
- 4) submissive
- 5) full of mercy and good fruit
- 6) impartial
- 7) sincere

11. What are the results of “heavenly wisdom”? (v 18)

12. How do we gain “heavenly wisdom”? (See Psalm 111:10; 1 Cor. 1:30; Col. 3:16; James 1:5)

13. What steps will you take this week to gain more “heavenly wisdom”?