



A Heart Like His

Session #8

James 3:13-18

"The Pursuit of Wisdom"

Start

- Have you ever had an opinion that you just felt needed to be heard by others? Describe it if you can remember.
- In your own words, what does it mean to be wise?
- Do you consider yourself a wise person? Why or why not?
- Is there someone in your life that you think of as wise? If so, then who, and why do you consider them wise?
- Read James 3:13-18**

Watch

Use the space below to take notes while you watch the video.

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Discuss

- Based on how James describes wisdom, how would you define it? Would you agree or disagree with the statement that says, "Wisdom is an outlook on life that leads to action? Explain.
- Read James 3:14-16** – According to James, worldly wisdom can be revealed in two attitudes. What are they?
- Bitter envy was described as "resentful dissatisfaction with what you have because you want what someone else has." Have you ever experienced this? If so, what are some things you've found yourself envying?
- How does envy steal joy?
- Can you think of a time in your life when you've been caught in the 'loop of discontentment' (chasing after something and eventually getting it, only to find that it didn't fulfill you like you thought it would so you go chasing after something else and repeat the cycle over again)?
- When you think of an ambitious person, what images come to your mind?



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- Look up the definition of '*ambition*' on your phone and then answer the following question. "Do you think being ambitious is more often a good thing or a bad thing?" Explain.
- How can you and I tell whether the ambitions we have are honoring to God or selfish? Why do you think selfish ambition ends up being a dead-end street?
- In what ways does living by worldly wisdom lead to chaos and disorder?
- How would you summarize 'wisdom from above'? If the message of Jesus (which is wisdom from above) is an invitation into a better way of living, in what ways is it better than living by worldly wisdom?
- On the spectrum of 'heavenly wisdom' and 'worldly foolishness', where are you? Are you living wisely?
- In what areas of your life do you need to stop living by the wisdom of the world and start living by the wisdom from above?