

Session # 5: James 3:13 – 4:12
Small Group Questions

1. Show your wisdom by your humility, says James. How does humility come from wisdom? What is the connection between the answer to this question and James 1:5-8?
2. “Humility” according to the Greek word in 3:14 is a *gentle* virtue meaning “gentleness, meekness, approachableness.” What is the connection between being humble before God and gentle towards others?
3. What is James saying about envy and selfish ambition in 3:14-16?
4. Verse 3:17 gives a great description of true wisdom. Which of these seven descriptions jump off the page at you? Why? Can you think of a time when one or more of these virtues proved themselves wise?
5. “Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness” (18). Talk about a time when that was proved true.
6. Verses 4:1-3 gives a sobering explanation for our “fights and quarrels.” What is it?
7. What do you covet? How do you tend to act around others when you don’t get what you want? What happens to your prayer life, and your relationship with God, when you become focused on getting what you want?
8. James says you can’t be a friend of the world and a friend of God (4:4-5). What does he mean? What does he *not* mean?
9. What is the key to receiving grace and gaining wisdom (4:6-10)? Why is this so hard to do? What keeps us from taking this route more often? What do we have to lose if we don’t?
10. What is ultimately behind our words when we slander others? How does this attitude not only undermine the law, but also the law giver?
11. Are there any lingering questions you have about this passage?
12. What would you say is the BIG IDEA of this passage (in a single sentence)? How can you apply that BIG IDEA specifically this week?

Close in prayer together.