

Faith that Works

March 25, 2007

“Wisdom from Above and Below”
James 3:13-18

But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

James 3:17 (NIV)

- **Pure:** moral excellence
- **Peace-loving:** peaceful
- **Considerate:** kind
- **Submissive:** reasonable
- **Full of mercy and good fruit:** compassionate
- **Impartial:** steady
- **Sincere:** without hypocrisy

God’s wisdom is the gift of _____ his character clearly and _____ what he requires of us.

Going Deeper

1. Name someone that you would describe as wise. Describe why you believe they are wise?
2. Which have you historically expected to receive when asking for God's wisdom--specific directions on what to do next or a greater understanding of who you are to be? (James 1:5, 3:17)
3. Of the seven elements of God's wisdom listed in James 3:17, which do you demonstrate adequately? Which do you need to grow?
 - **Pure:** moral excellence
 - **Peace-loving:** peaceful
 - **Considerate:** kind
 - **Submissive:** reasonable
 - **Full of mercy:** compassionate
 - **Impartial:** steady
 - **Sincere:** without hypocrisy
4. If wisdom is the gift of seeing God's character clearly, what part of God's character do you need to see more clearly in order to strengthen those elements of wisdom in which you need to grow?
5. If wisdom is the gift of understanding what God requires of us, then how might we grow in our understanding? (Colossians 2:2-3)

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