

1. Get Acquainted: Discovery – Asking for Wisdom (Help) (10 min)

Wisdom – skillful living. David used the example of multilevel need for wisdom due to his refrigerator breaking down and his need of a repairman lead to his need to ask a neighbor who knew a skilled, reliable appliance repairman.

- Where will you seek wisdom this week?
 - TimO's Examples:
 - Joe at Joyce Automotive for may oil change and car repair
 - Theresa – calendar and scheduling
 - Dwight – managing others, world events
 - Tina – CBR, example of life and godliness
 - Blake - Fitness

2. Worship: Wisdom from Above - Jesus (10 min)

Read and Worship. Read and Worship. Enjoy the “gift from above” of wisdom.

Meditation Verses: James 3:17 But wisdom from above (Jesus) is pure, peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial, and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Meekness of Wisdom

Meekness - the utter delight and joy in the weakness of our design that leads us to, not only cry out to God for help but to worship and wonder at His infinites and omni(s)!!!

Meekness - the enjoyment of my neediness in the presence of God's greatness and generosity

Wisdom - the activity of living, thinking and making decisions understanding and aware of God as the center.

Wisdom - God acts. All creation re-acts.

3. Kingdom Centered Prayer: (10 min)

YOU CAN PRAY WITH US ...

1. Adoration - Worship the Lord for He is the source of all wisdom. In His generosity, He has sent wisdom to us in the form of His Son, Jesus Christ.
2. Confession - Consider the sources of wisdom. Where is your life marked with a spirit of jealousy and selfish ambition? Confess your envy and selfishness, asking Him to forgive you and to give you the mind of Christ (Philippians 2:1-11).
3. Thanksgiving - Give thanks to the Lord for the gift of wisdom. Thank Jesus for coming down from above and making peace for us by the blood of the cross!
4. Supplication – Personal - Evaluate your heart, your home and your community. Where is there disorder and chaos? Ask the Holy Spirit to grant you wisdom that would enable you to love others and pursue peace.
5. Supplication – Others - Who do you know that has been deceived by the lies of earthly wisdom? Pray for them, asking the Lord to show mercy and kindness toward them. Where might you have an opportunity to gently point them toward the wisdom of Christ?

4. Sermon Reflection: (10 min)

Proclamation of God's Word – Text: James 3:13-18 (ESV)

Title: Faithful Character In Crisis: Wisdom from Above **Teacher:** David Springer

Intro: Searching for Wisdom

Why do we search for wisdom?

Why did God desire as part of our design to make us wisdom-less?

THE SOURCES OF WISDOM – “Consider the Source”

Heavenly, From Above – God is at the Center of All Things

What do you love most about “Wisdom from Above”?

Earthly – You are at the Center of All Things

What earthly wisdom has caused or causes chaos in your life?

THE SEEDS OF WISDOM

Heavenly – From Above

Are you perpetually thankful for the gifts of wisdom in your life?

Earthly -

Where are you discontent?

Where are you encouraging discontentment in others?

THE SOLUTION WE ALL NEED – Look to Jesus

Now we look to Jesus, wisdom from above, whose works in His life, death and resurrection match the words of love for us.

Where have you stopped “looking to Jesus”? Ask Him for wisdom as you look to Him on the Cross.

The Points of the Cross of Jesus - it is as if the Cross of Jesus points us in 4 LOOKS

1. Jesus' Right Arm nailed to the cross causes us to look deeply at our past efforts, errors, rebellions and sins. So we look and look and look some more at our selfishness and conclude, by the work of Holy Spirit, we are in need.
2. Jesus' Feet are pointed down to Hell as it were and to the rightful place due us for our sin and selfishness.
3. Jesus' Left Arm Nailed to the cross points us to consider our future, the eternal life purchased by Christ free gifted to us by faith which now earns, wins, for us because our record of sins are forgiven, our life now is described by the perfection of Jesus - we are now and forever adopted into the Family of God.
4. Jesus Head rests on the part of the beam of the Cross that points to His Father's throne in heaven, His home, where Jesus' resurrection will establish the Father's delight in Him and prove forever HE IS THE SON OF GOD. And we will join Him for a big party that lasts forever and ever.

5. Mission: Mission Thanksgiving through Meekness (10 min)

Who has God placed in your life to train you in wisdom?

Family -

Co-Workers –

Coaches –

Classmates –

Teachers –

Disciplers –

Neighbors –

Pastors -

Think to this past week – who was “wisdom from above” for you and thank God for them?
Think of the week to come – where will you need “wisdom from above” and can right now call out to God for help?

6. Jesus From Others (10 min)

Close your time together in letting each person share something they came to love about Jesus from something someone in the group shared during your time together.

- What do you love more about Jesus from what someone shared during our CG tonight?