James: Two Kinds of Wisdom Derek Sanford November 13, 2016

## Life Group Discussion Questions:

- 1. Thinking back on this week's sermon, is there a particular point you recall that caught your attention or you found challenging or confusing?
- 2. Read **James 3:13-18**. The big idea is: Wisdom is a way of life. Read **Proverbs 9:10** and discuss the difference between knowledge and wisdom. Why is wisdom so important?
- Pastor Derek said, "Whenever you rely on earthly wisdom, you'll have a mess." Read James
  3:14,15 and Titus 3:3-5 and describe earthly wisdom. If you're willing, share a time when relying on earthly wisdom caused a mess for you.
- 4. Read James 3:17,18 Here are characteristics of true wisdom and a question to ask yourself for each: a) PURE (Are my motives pure?); b) PEACEABLE (Am I looking for common ground?); c) GENTLE (Am I respectful?); d) OPEN TO REASON (Am I teachable?); e) FULL OF MERCY (Am I merciful?); f) GOOD FRUITS (Am I producing good fruits?); g) IMPARTIAL (Am I fair?); h) SINCERE (Do I walk my talk?) In which of these do you most need God's work in your life?
- 5. Read **James 3:18** When we sow peace we reap peace. What are some ways we can cultivate peace?
- 6. **Proverbs 9:10** and **Colossians 2:2,3** remind us how we get true wisdom. It doesn't come through our own trying but only by getting closer to God. There is no quick way to wisdom, but what are some steps you can take to develop it?

**Next Steps:** a) Find your chair and do the 5 daily readings for this week; b) Choose one characteristic of true wisdom and make it your prayer focus this week. c) As a group make a plan to hold each other accountable for these steps.

## **Prayer Thought:**

Jesus, You are the only source of true wisdom for us. Thank You that You know us fully and love us completely. Help us to be knit together in Your love so we can know You and see Your wisdom in our lives. Amen.