



**Series** Life Tools

**Passage** James 3:13-4:3

**Title** Tools for Growing in Wisdom

**Speaker:** Dave Menard 07/16/2017

- **Discussion Starter:** Before hearing Sunday's message, how would you have described what it means to pursue wisdom? Would your answer be different after hearing Sunday's message? Explain.

#### **Godly Wisdom versus Demonic Wisdom** (James 2:19, 3:13-18; Proverbs 4:7, 24:3-4)

- According to James 3:13, how is one to show that he has wisdom and understanding? What example can you share from your own life experiences that demonstrates this type of wisdom?
- Describe in your own words what demonic faith and demonic wisdom mean? What is the commonality between them both?
- What are some earthly wisdom examples that you have later regretted pursuing? In which area(s) of your life do you feel you need godly, not earthly, wisdom?

#### **You Don't Have Because You Don't Ask** (James 4:2b; Matthew 7:7-11, John 14:12-14)

- If God already knows what we need, why does He want us to ask Him for these things? What are some of the things you are more reluctant to ask God to give you? Why?
- What instruction do we see in Matthew 7:7-11 and John 14:12-14, in regards to what we are to ask God for, and what results are we to expect? What is the key?

#### **The Desire to Get Our Own Way is the Root of Our Problems** (James 4:1-3; Luke 12:15)

- What are some deceitful things we tell ourselves to justify our own desire to get our own way? How do these desires hurt our relationships? How do we avoid this trap?

#### **Godly Wisdom Produces Godly Character** (James 3:13, 17-18)

##### **7 Signs You are Growing in Godly Wisdom:**

- 1> You are Pure in Heart (No Self Interest – No Ulterior Motive)
  - 2> You Quickly Forgive
  - 3> You Love People for Who They Are -Not for What You Can Get Out of Them
  - 4> You Submit to Authority
  - 5> You Don't Have to Get Your Way to Be Happy
  - 6> You Enjoy Serving Others
  - 7> You Know God's Will and Pray for It Into Your Life
- How are you progressing in your growth in each of these areas of godly wisdom? Which of the seven areas have been easier for you to show growth in godly character and which ones have been more difficult?