

## Sermon Discussion Questions for July 21, 2019

### Wisdom Contrasted

Scripture Passages: James 3:13-18

1. What key point stood out to you in the message?
  2. Where do you get your daily information? News reports on television? News feeds on phone? Google?
  3. "People are drowning in information but starving for wisdom" (Kristof). Pastor Andrew gave a great illustration using a tomato. Anyone remember? ('Information' says tomato is a fruit. 'Wisdom' says not to use in a fruit salad).
  4. What two types of wisdom are contrasted in versus 13-18? According to Pastor Andrew's chart, regarding attitude, what wisdom is said to be earthly? What wisdom is heavenly? (Pride/earthly – Humility/heavenly). Humility, meekness and gentleness are English equivalents of Greek word that is more precisely translated into a phrase. Anyone remember the phrase? (Strength brought under control for the benefit of others). Do you find yourself acting with humility or pride with your co-workers? How about with your spouse, children, or friends? Do you always have to be right?
  5. Regarding motives, what wisdom is earthly/demonic? What wisdom is heavenly? (Self-centered/earthly – Purity/heavenly). Do you find yourself fighting for your rights? Do other people's concerns matter to you? What is one way you can practice selflessness today?
  6. Regarding outcomes, what does earthly wisdom lead to? (Chaos and evil). What does heavenly wisdom lead to? (Peace and goodness).
  7. Pastor Andrew referred to book by Ken Sande (The Peacemaker). According to Sande, what are the 4 ways wise people approach conflict? (1. Ask what would bring glory to God in the situation 2. Examine yourself 3. Gently address the situation with the other person. 4. Forgive always and restore the relationship.) Will you aim to do this?
- Remember to pray for each other's unique challenges and commit to pray throughout the week for one another.
  - Love others as Christ loves you.
  - Fill your mind and heart with the gospel of Christ Jesus.
  - Live out the gospel of Christ which calls for radical Love for God and Love for others.

