

James: A Letter from Jesus' Brother

Wisdom — James 1:5-8

Introduction

In Joshua 9 we read that Joshua was deceived by the Gibeonites, because he did not ask for wisdom from God.

In James 1:5-8 we read that when we lack wisdom, if we will ask in faith, Jesus will always give us all the wisdom we need.

What should we do when we lack wisdom?

We should ask God.

Why should we ask God?

Because if we ask, God will always give us all the wisdom we need, generously and without reproach.

How does God give wisdom to us?

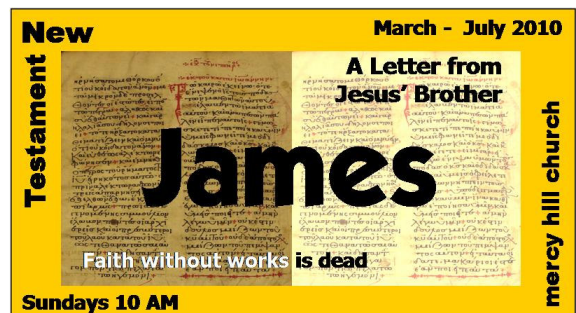
Through His Word (2 Tim 3:16-17)
Through other wise men and women (Pro 15:22)
Through our thinking (1Cor 14:20)
Through supernatural revelation (1Cor 14:1)

What's the right way to ask for wisdom?

To ask in faith, with no doubting.
We let the fact of our sinfulness cause us to doubt that God will give us wisdom
We let our desires for other things make us doubt whether God's wisdom will be good for us
To ask in faith means trusting that even though we've sinned, because of Jesus God will give us wisdom — and that whatever God gives, we'll be satisfied completely in knowing Him.

What should we do?

Understand that if I am trusting Jesus, I can have all the wisdom I need for every decision I have to make.
Bring every need for wisdom to God in prayer.
Take time during home group to bring each other's needs to Jesus for wisdom.
Tell people who don't know Jesus about how — because of the Cross, you can have all the wisdom you need.



HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

What was the Holy Spirit saying to you Sunday through this passage?

What questions, ideas, objections, encouragements did you come away with?

What do you usually do when you face a big decision?

What keeps you from more frequently asking God for wisdom?

What are some ways you've seen God give you wisdom?

What decisions are you facing right now? Have you been asking God for wisdom? What's been happening as a result?

Who could benefit from hearing about how Jesus makes it possible for us to always have all the wisdom we need for every decision we face.

What's your take-away from this message? What are you going to do differently? When? How?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.

