



LIFEGROUPS

Series: Crazy Makers

Scripture: James 3:13-18

Date: April 29 & 30, 2017

—[LET'S START]—

- Last weekend, Pastor Brad shared a very practical step for dealing with our crazy makers and that is to pray about them – to pray that God would show us why that difficult person is in our life.
- Share what has been happening as you have asked God to show you His purpose for having that crazy maker in your life.

—[LET'S TALK]—

James 3:13-18

1. Have someone read James 3:13 aloud. What is characteristic of wisdom according to this verse? What makes this distinct from how most people think of wisdom?
2. Now have someone read James 3:14-16 aloud. How does this wisdom contrast with the wisdom that is described in verse 13? What is the underlying motivation for most of this earthly wisdom? What is bad regarding this earthly wisdom?
3. James's use of "unspiritual" means its source is out of our own senses. Discuss some dangers that may arise from wisdom based on how we feel about something or someone?
4. Look over verses 17 & 18. This is a listing of the characteristics of heavenly wisdom. How does heavenly wisdom influence relationships? In contrast, what are some characteristics of earthly wisdom? How would that influence relationships?
5. Proverbs 1:7 NIV says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction." What do you think this means in the context of our discussion about heavenly wisdom?

—[LET’S ACT]—

- Kyle used a powerful illustration to describe the potential for having order in our relationships. He talked about the harmony in the sound of a chord when the notes are correctly ordered.
 - The foundation of order to relationships is having order in our relationship to God. Commit anew or resume your commitment to prayer and time reading the Bible.
 - Allow your relationship with God to be the tuning fork to adjust your relationships with others. Think of one of your crazy makers. What steps can you take right now to put order into that relationship?
- Wisdom that comes from God has nothing to do with education, age or ability to think philosophically. James 1:5 states, “If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.” Make that your prayer and take Pastor Kyle’s challenge to read a chapter in Proverbs for every day of May, seeking the heavenly wisdom to be found there.

—[SERMON REVIEW]—

- Bible passage: James 3:13-18
- To deal with our crazy makers, we are the ones who need to be wise, even though we may tend to think that they are the ones who need a strong dose of wisdom.
- Earthly wisdom:
 - Seeking “How do I get ahead?”
 - Being driven by selfish ambition
 - Building constituents to take your side
 - Leading to “disorder and every evil practice” (James 3:16)
- Heavenly wisdom:
 - Asking how do we get together?
 - Putting order to relationships, with our relationship with God being the starting point
- When we take the time to get our relationship with God in the proper order and if we listen to Him, He promises to give us the wisdom to retune the relationships in our lives. He will help us to take the steps that will promote peace in our relationships.
- Challenge: seek God’s wisdom for your relationships by reading a chapter from the book of Proverbs each day of the month of May.

—[NOTES]—
