

# Goldstone Church

## Small Group Questions

### James 3:13-18

#### For Starting

- If you could invent something to solve a problem, what would it be?
- Share ONE of the wisest saying that you use in your life.
- How easy or hard is it for people in any church to convince others that Christians are wise people?
- What verse or phrase stood out for you in this passage?

#### For Reviewing

- According to James, how is wisdom displayed in someone's life (v.13)?
- What behaviours are identified as *not* heavenly wisdom (v.14)? What should be done with these?
- If wisdom is not from heaven, where does it come from (v.15)? Is this too simplistic a view?
- What is the consequence of earthly wisdom (v.16)?
- List the NINE characteristics of heavenly wisdom in v.17.
- What is the result of peacekeepers sowing peace (v.18)?

#### For Discussion

- "*Wisdom is not just acquired information but practical insight with spiritual implications.*" Do you agree or disagree with this definition of spiritual wisdom? Why?
- How can you tell when God's wisdom is at work in someone's life?
- Which of the evidences of world wisdom (see v.14) would you like to see less of in your life?
- "*What we are is what we live, and what we live is what we sow*". Do you agree/disagree? Why/why not?
- In what way is the Christian life a life of sowing and reaping?
- You could end by reading together James 3:17

## **James 3:13-18 (NIVUK)**

### **Two kinds of wisdom**

<sup>13</sup> Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. <sup>14</sup> But if you harbour bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. <sup>15</sup> Such 'wisdom' does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. <sup>16</sup> For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

<sup>17</sup> But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup> Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.