

JAMES

BLUEPRINTS FOR A BETTER LIFE

The Proof Is In The Pudding

PURPOSE OF GROUP

Grow: Take next steps in our faith journey.

Invite: Make room for others to grow.

Support: Care and serve one another.

PRAY

CONNECT

- What was your best subject in school? Why did you excel?
- What was your worst subject? How bad was it?
- Thankfully (for most of us), knowledge is not the same as wisdom. How are they different?

READ JAMES 3:13-18

- What stuck out to you in the sermon/text this week?
- vs 13— This verse starts with a question, so let's answer it. Who is the wisest person you know, or have known? Why do you say that? How have they shown their wisdom?
- Most people search for wisdom in one of the following places: Senses — what I feel; Self — what I think; Society — what others think. Which do you tend to naturally lean toward?
- *"True Wisdom is seeing and interpreting life from God's perspective. Then, making life's decisions based on that understanding."* Since following Jesus, what is one perspective that's changed for you?
- What are influences that shape your thinking and perspective in a negative way?

TRUE WISDOM VS. FALSE WISDOM

- Envy, selfish ambition, boasting, and hypocrisy are four traits of false wisdom. Which are you most prone to?
 - How does envy affect our decision making?
 - What's a decision you've made in your past that was done out of selfishness and came back to really hurt you?
- True wisdom is pure, peaceable, gentle, open to reason, merciful, impartial (stands on truth), and sincere.
 - Which of these qualities do you need to work on most?
- Why is wisdom more than just a formula to follow or principles to learn? Why do we need to meet Jesus in order to truly live wise lives?

FINAL QUESTION (break up into men and woman)

- What area of your life has been defined as unwise?

PRAY

SUGGESTED ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS

(Below are three sets of accountability questions. My suggestion would be to break up into men and women and do one set of accountability questions every meeting or just do the top 3 below...

Top 3

- What has God been teaching/challenging you in this week through Scripture and prayer?
- When it comes to your relationships, what can we pray for you about?
- Are you holding on to anything you need to confess (*anger, lust, envy, anxiety, jealousy, bitterness*)?

— OR —

How's your relationship with God?	How's your relationships with others?	How's your heart?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How have you experienced God's love and goodness this week?• What has gotten in the way of your relationship with God this last week?• What has God been teaching/challenging you in this week through Scripture and prayer?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are you angry/bitter/resentful toward anyone? Anyone you need to apologize to or reconcile with?• What have you done to serve, encourage, and lead your family/friends closer to God?• Who are you actively trying to share the love of God with? (Inviting to church, serving them, reaching out) (pick a new person every month)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are you holding on to anything you need to confess? (<i>lust, lying, greed, anger, envy, pride, laziness, gluttony — I would use this question to talk about purity.</i>)• How has your anger/envy/anxiety/addiction shown up this week?<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How does that reveal what you're trusting in besides God?