



Group Time

ENCOURAGEMENT 1-on-1 (See page 48 for directions)

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LOOK BACK:

Point: Spiritual maturity happens through trials.

- Did you face any “trials” this week? How did you respond?

Question: Watch this 90 sec. video by Francis Chan: vimeo.com/304675089. How does this happen in church? Give examples.



LOOK UP: Watch this week’s video on the 4G web page.

Recap: Wisdom means knowing what God wants from you at this moment. And when God tells us to do something, it’s not a list of options like the responses in the Francis Chan video.

James 1:9-18 shows us a picture of wisdom. Wisdom may be knowing in the now, but it is not based on the here and now. It’s based on the long game, on eternal choices that endure all trials and tribulations. Wisdom knows we have a choice, and if we are listening to wisdom, we will make good choices.

This is how much God loves us – He is always ready with His wisdom for us. And when we choose His wisdom, we are a part of His kingdom come, and His will to be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

LOOK IN: Discussion

- Is there a difference between worldly wisdom and godly wisdom? Is one part of the other? Maybe make a list or draw a Venn diagram to explain your answer.
- How does the wisdom James is writing about (esp. 1:13-15) help us understand Matthew 6:13?
- Explain James 1:18 in your own words.

LOOK FORWARD: Application

Point: If you want wisdom, ASK and DO!

Wisdom Knows We Can Trust God

Is wisdom a thing to be had or a process that is developed?

It’s a bit of both, for God will freely give us His wisdom as we ask. But it is for His purposes. As we do well with the wisdom He gives us, He will give us more. (See Matthew 25:14-23)

- Read James 1:5-8. What does God want from you at this moment?

- What will you now do? What’s the plan? The road will not be easy. Read James 1:16-18. Prepare accordingly.

Be prepared to share the plan with your group.