



MESSAGE NOTES

Wisdom in Relationships

James 3:17-18

James Brown

1. Peace making

James 3:17-18 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

When we experience trouble in our relationships we have two options. We can focus on resolution or reconciliation. Resolution is trying to solve all the problems in the relationship. Reconciliation is focused on maintaining peace and improving the relationship. Wise people focus on reconciliation over resolution.

2. Overlooking offences

Proverbs 19:11 A person's wisdom yields patience; it is to one's glory to overlook an offense.

Wisdom makes us patient and gives us the ability to overlook offences. This is for our own benefit more than for the one committing the offence. God is perfectly just and fair. And He is in sovereign control over all situations. So we can leave justice to Him and focus only on loving and forgiving other people.

3. Listening to advice

Proverbs 15:22 Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

One of the main ways God speaks to us is through other people. Different people have different perspectives on the same situation. We need to hear all of those perspectives before we can make a wise decision. Wisdom is being able to make the right decision no matter how you feel about it.