

The Wisdom of Being a Peacemaker Discussion Questions

James 3:13-18

1. Would the people around you consider you a peace maker or a peace breaker?
2. Read James 3:13. What is wisdom?
3. Why is wisdom measured by deeds and not words? If this is so, why do most people think wisdom is measured by the advice you give or what you know?
4. Where do you usually go first to find wisdom (people, books, God's Word, etc.)? Why?
5. Read James 3:14-16. Have you ever been jealous of someone about something that has caused you to be bitter towards them? What did these feelings do to you? How can we change our bitterness and jealousy?
6. Why can't we trust worldly wisdom?
7. Why can't we make decisions based on what feels right?
8. What is the difference between ambition and selfish ambition or is there a difference? Can ambition be used for good for God's kingdom?
9. Read James 3:17-18. Does this sound like another passage of Scripture? Which passage and why does it remind you of it?
10. What does a wise person have to do to bring peace?
11. What makes it so difficult to get along with other people?
12. On a scale of 1 to 10, 1 being low and 10 being a high peace lover, how would you rate yourself after considering the six qualities (gentle, open to reason, full of mercy, good fruits, impartial, and sincere) of a peace lover? Why?
13. Which quality do you struggle with the most? Which quality do you succeed with the most?
14. How do we show peace? How do we pursue peace?
15. Why is it important to guard our peace?
16. Why is peace such hard work?
17. Which of the action steps given (at peace with God, at peace with others, help others who are in conflict, and lead other to be at peace with God) do you need to take?

18. Why is it so hard to deal with conflict the way the Bible tells us to?
19. How does glorifying God help with removing conflict?
20. Read Matthew 7:3-5 and Proverbs 28:13. What are these verses telling us to do?
21. Read Matthew 18:15-20 and Galatians 6:1-2. How are we to go about restoring others and resolving conflict?
22. Read Matthew 5:23-24, 6:12, and Ephesians 4:32. How does being in conflict with others affect our relationship with God? What are we supposed to do about it?