

Baycities Lomita Winter/Spring 2019 Growth Groups
New Series: “WWJD- What Would James Do”- Part 2
Theme: “Finding Wisdom In A Google World” Week of Mar. 10, 2019
Follow-Up Bible Study and Discussion Questions

Message Summary: This week we’re continuing in the Book of James...asking... What Would James Do... and this week, James moves us from trials to think about the Wisdom it will take... to navigate those trials! In James 1:5-8, he’s telling us about Wisdom from God... which you and I need daily! How do you find this wisdom in a Google World? In a world where access to information is huge... and truth is relative, truth is cultural, absolute issues are avoided like the plague... and God’s wisdom is disrespected and shoved to the back of the line! But- it’s still His “know how” about life, from His omniscient, all knowing and eternal perspective... that makes his wisdom what we need more than anything else! Not even Google measures up! James says that when you need wisdom- you go to God as your resource. Your first choice... not using God as a consultant! He will not play that role! He wants to be your sole source! He gives wisdom to those who sole-source to Him, and who know His Son Jesus! This wisdom is not available to the whole world... it is for Christians alone! He turns up the light of his wisdom to those who obey Him and He turns down the light of His wisdom for those who disobey and ignore His truth! To navigate trials and troubles well, you need God’s Wisdom to make the right choices in the storms that are brewing. But if you are tempted to be a double-minded believer, who is straddling the fence with his/her conduct and life choices- you just hurt yourself and get nothing from God by way of additional wisdom! The trials and troubles will likely get the better of you! So, obeying the truth you know is key! Watch your loyalty... is it sunk into the person of Jesus? Or, is this world and its attractions just a little too bright in your eyes? You’ll know by the instability that results in your life! It will point to a marginal faith... not a strong one! We need strong faith to thrive in a broken, troubled filled world, as we live for Jesus!!

1. What impacted you the most from the message about God’s wisdom on Sunday?

2. What are some reasons you can think of as to why you need God’s wisdom to endure the trials, hard times, and set-backs that you do face and will face in your life?

3. Asking God for Wisdom as you are facing hard times, often does not lead to you finding out why you are going through this experience right now. It may be until heaven 'til we find out. Discuss the importance of being able to answer the following questions with God's wisdom as you are in the midst of a hard time:

- a. How can I understand this trial from God's perspective?
- b. How can I navigate thru this storm in such a way as to bring glory to God?
- c. How can this trial help me grow in maturity?"

(Provide any personal stories or examples you are or have gone through where you discovered the answers to questions A, B and C.)

4. The Dimmer Switch Principle says: God gives you more light when you obey and respond to the light (or wisdom) you have been given. He turns down the light (of His wisdom & understanding) when we ignore or disobey the wisdom we already know from God. How would a Christian seeking more of God's wisdom, respond in the following circumstances:

- a. A believer is dating a person who is not a Christian. They are praying for God to give them a sign or let them know when they should move forward and get serious about marriage with this person.
- b. A Christian is facing what they perceive as opposition at work from their boss & work mates. The Christian does his work, but tends to be late, turns in work with minor errors in it, and regularly is critical about the quality of the work product of those in his/her work group.

5. OK, so you're a church attender and lead a good life. But you're also an eager reader of Dear Abby Advice columns, Readers Digest, Google answers most life questions for you and you following closely the ins and outs of your astrological signs and daily horoscope. How much are you at risk when the next trial or hard time hits your life?