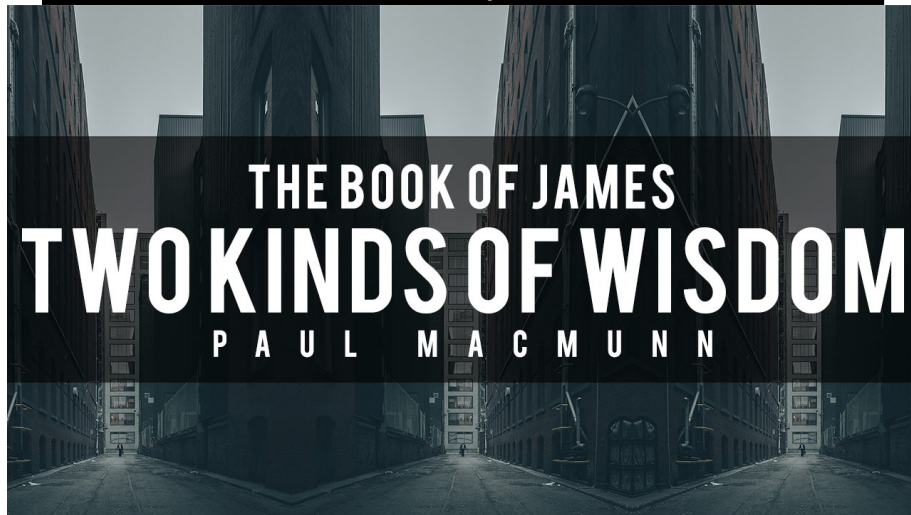


## Oceanside Connect Group Outline

Week of May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016



### Key Scriptures:

#### James 1:5–8 (ESV)

<sup>5</sup> If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. <sup>6</sup> But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup> For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; <sup>8</sup> he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

#### James 3:13–18 (ESV)

<sup>13</sup> Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. <sup>14</sup> But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. <sup>15</sup> This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. <sup>16</sup> For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. <sup>17</sup> But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup> And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

### Discussion questions from this week's sermon

**What celebrities in our culture today are lifted up as having wisdom?**

James in 3:14 says that those who have selfish ambition in their hearts do not have wisdom. **Would our culture agree with that?**

**Does the bible say that knowledge and wisdom are the same thing?**

**Have you ever seen or experienced biblical knowledge applied in an unwise or harmful way? What would the wise way have been?**

Read Proverbs 9:10. **Why is this the beginning of wisdom?**

In 3:17 James uses eight important illustrative words that flow with wisdom given by God. **Why does wisdom have to be “pure, peaceable & gentle”?**

**What does it look like when wisdom is “open to reason [and] full of mercy”? Can you think what the examples are of this?**

**Can it be truly “wisdom from above” if it does not have good fruits?**

Finally, James states that wisdom is sincere. **With this in mind, if you have wisdom for someone how can you go about sharing it in a sincere way? If it is not shared sincerely will the wisdom be received?**

**How should we go about seeking the wisdom of God? James 1**

**Do you find yourself seeking God for a particular thing you need wisdom in or is the wisdom just something we generally have?**

**How can we as a church practically live out the call to be wise from James?**