

Consider It!

What are the characteristics of wisdom from God (3:17-18)?

What are the differences between worldly wisdom and divine wisdom?

What can we learn about the character of an individual by observing their use of knowledge, understanding, and wisdom?

How did Francis Collins demonstrate wisdom from above in bringing The Human Genome Project to completion?

How can we gain heavenly wisdom?

- Job 28:20-28

- Proverbs 2:1-6

- James 1:5-8

What people or experiences has God used in your life to help you grow in understanding and wisdom? Share an example.

Live It!

Where in your life do you need understanding and wisdom?

What do you need to do to gain understanding and wisdom?

Take time to thank those people God has used in your life to help you grow in knowledge, understanding and wisdom.

How might God have you help someone else move beyond knowledge to understanding and wisdom?

When God Speaks!

"Collins, Seek Wisdom"

James 3:13-18

Sunday, August 18, 2019

Sermon Proposition

Like Francis Collins, God invites you to pursue knowledge, truth and wisdom.

The Pursuit of Knowledge

Have you considered the vast expanses of the earth? Tell me, if you know it all!

Job 38:18 (NET)

The Pursuit of Truth

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

Jeremiah 29:13 (NIV)

The Truth of

The Truth of

The Truth of

The Pursuit of Wisdom

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.
James 1:5 (NIV)

Recommended Reading

The Language of God by Francis S. Collins
Belief: Readings on the Reason for Faith by Francis S. Collins

When God Speaks!
"Seek Wisdom"
James 3:13-18

Open It!

It has been said, *"Knowledge is a matter of knowing the facts; understanding, comprehending the significance of the facts; and wisdom, the proper use of knowledge and understanding."*

Is knowledge and understanding enough to get the job done?
In what occupations is wisdom desirable? Why?

Read It!

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. ¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

James 3:13–18 (NIV)

Consider It!

What does a wise person look like (3:13)?

What is wrong with the pursuit of wisdom by selfishly motivated people (3:14-16)?

What harm have you seen done by envious and selfishly motivated people (3:16)?