

## Small Group Questions

### On the Edge: Evil or Good

1/15/12

In these verses James continues on his pursuit of "pure religion" and continues to put before us a mirror so that we do not forget what we look like (CH. 1 vs 23-24). We have tongues that bless God and curse men. This contradiction should not be, and the source of it must be rooted out. In verses 13-18 the contrast between wisdom from above and demonic wisdom is given. List the characteristics of Godly wisdom and demonic wisdom. Do any of the characteristics stick out to you?

#### Getting Started...

Were you able to keep up on the 40 day challenge? What day or verses impacted you the most and why?

What is a situation that you have gone through that you needed advice or wisdom? What did you do and how did you get counsel?

How do we know when the counsel we receive is godly wisdom or earthly wisdom?

Who do you go to when you need wisdom and what is it about that person that you trust their advice?

Why does envy and selfish ambition lead to disorder and every evil practice? What is it about those 2 characteristics that lead to such destruction?

#### Digging Deeper...

*Read James 3:13-18*

It may seem that godly wisdom is always “nice” and sacrificial, but there are times that we need to stand up for what is right. How do we live out verses 17 and 18 and yet stand firm for what is right?

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Pastor Ronn Smith

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### How do we know who and what to listen to ?

At least one impulse of these passages is directed at making us conscious of the contradictions and inconsistencies in speech and action that exist within us as those who claim to love Jesus. Truly wise people recognize these contradictions and get before God to deal with them. What have you learned about wisdom? Take some time to reflect and ask yourself how much of what you do and say reflects wisdom from above? How much of it is rooted in selfish ambition? Are there specific things you see that require change?

\_\_\_\_\_ is seen in how you \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ wisdom leads to \_\_\_\_\_ and Good Deeds.

Take some time to pray through the study and present what you have learned to God. If you are new to praying consider the acronym ACTS to help stimulate your prayers: Adore, Confess, Thank, and Supplicate.

\_\_\_\_\_ wisdom leads to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.