

# James Series Going Deeper

## 5- Day Devotional

### Week 3, Day 1: The Gift of Wisdom

#### Verse of the Day

**Primary Scripture:** James 1:5–6

*If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. 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*

#### Primary Focus Statement:

Biblical wisdom is not merely intelligence, education, or accumulated information. Wisdom is the ability to see life as God sees it and respond according to His truth. It is understanding “what is” according to the fixed realities of God’s kingdom. Wisdom reveals how life truly works under God’s authority, and it protects us from unnecessary destruction while leading us into peace, clarity, obedience, and blessing.

#### Devotional Teaching:

James writes these words directly after teaching believers how to endure trials with joy and steadfastness. That connection matters deeply. Trials often expose how little we actually know. They place us in situations where emotions are high, pain feels overwhelming, and the future seems uncertain. In those moments, most people do not primarily need relief from the trial—they need wisdom for how to walk through it.

This is why James says, “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God.” The language assumes that every believer will eventually come to moments where they do not know what to do. You may not know how to respond to betrayal. You may not know how to parent through a difficult season. You may not know how to navigate financial pressure, health concerns, ministry hardship, or relational conflict. Trials often create questions that human strength cannot answer.

Biblical wisdom is far deeper than simply knowing facts. Knowledge tells you what something is. Wisdom tells you what to do with what you know. Wisdom sees reality through the lens of God’s truth.

The book of Proverbs repeatedly reveals this principle. Proverbs teaches us that there are fixed realities built into God’s creation. A little laziness eventually produces lack. Pride eventually leads to destruction. Uncontrolled words eventually damage relationships. Sexual

sin eventually brings devastation. Humility invites grace. Diligence often produces fruit. Generosity leads to blessing. These are “what is” realities woven into creation by God Himself.

Wisdom allows you to see these realities before consequences teach them the hard way.

This becomes incredibly important in trials because suffering often clouds judgment. Pain can make us reactive. Fear can make us impulsive. Pride can make us self-reliant. Anxiety can make us create solutions God never asked us to build.

But wisdom slows us down.

Wisdom reminds us that God is still sovereign. Wisdom reminds us that temporary pain is not permanent abandonment. Wisdom reminds us that obedience is always better than compromise. Wisdom helps us choose eternal perspective over temporary emotional relief.

And James gives us incredible hope—God is not reluctant to provide wisdom.

He says God gives generously to all without reproach.

That means God does not shame you for asking. He does not mock your weakness. He does not grow frustrated with your need. He is a generous Father who delights in guiding His children.

When you ask God for wisdom, He often gives it through His Word, prayer, godly counsel, conviction from the Holy Spirit, and circumstances that clarify your next step.

The blessings of wisdom are immeasurable. Wisdom protects your future. Wisdom preserves relationships. Wisdom guards your testimony. Wisdom prevents unnecessary pain. Wisdom produces peace because it aligns your life with God’s design. Most importantly, wisdom helps you become more like Christ.

Many people pray for God to remove trials. James teaches us to first ask God for wisdom in the middle of them.

Sometimes the greatest miracle is not escape from hardship—it is divine clarity while walking through it.

### **Reflection Questions:**

Where in your life do you currently need God’s wisdom?

Have you been asking God to remove something when you should first be asking Him how to walk through it?

What decisions have you made emotionally that may have lacked biblical wisdom?

### **Action Step:**

Spend intentional time in prayer today specifically asking God for wisdom in one area of confusion. Write down what you believe God may already be showing you through His Word.

