

**SERIES TITLE: WISDOM IN THE MAKING**

**PART ONE: PEACE MAKING**

**TEXT: JAMES 3:13-4:2**

### **INTRODUCTION TO STUDY**

James is the wisdom book of the New Testament. This series focuses on a section of the book that deals with four practical subjects: interpersonal conflict, prayer, decisions, and finances. In this text we find God's wisdom for each of these areas.

### **CONTEXT OF SCRIPTURE**

James opens his epistle with encouragement for believers undergoing trials. He then follows with an exhortation to both hear and obey God's Word. Obedience should manifest itself in an active faith, evident in self-control, God's wisdom, humility, and peace.

### **FOCUS QUESTION**

Think of the last interpersonal conflict you experienced. What do you think was the cause and how was it resolved?

### **EXAMINATION**

3:13-18 List all the characteristics of human wisdom and all the characteristics of heavenly wisdom that you see mentioned in this passage.

Human:

Heavenly:

4:1 According to this verse, what is the source of fights and quarrels?

- How does Paul's admission in Romans 7:18-25 compare or contrast with this?

4:2 Why does James use such strong words to talk about our frustrated desires?

- Compare Jesus' words in Matthew 5:21-24.

### **EXPLORATION**

- Proverbs 2:3-6
- Matthew 5:9, 43-48

- 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
- Galatians 5:16-26
- 1 John 2:15-17

**APPLICATION.**

- How does it help to realize that so much of my relational conflict is the result of me not getting what I want?
- How can you actively plant peace (3:17) rather than simply avoid conflict?
- Why is confession important for dealing with our frustrated desire?

**SUMMATION**

- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?