

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. James 3:13 (NIV)

Success?

I want to be wise and understanding. I want my life to demonstrate that I am both wise and understanding. **Why do you want to be wise and understanding?** What do you mean by asking me that? **What is wise? What is understanding? How are you defining those terms? Why is it your desire and goal to be wise and understanding?** I'm still not fully understanding where you are headed with your questions. **Let's take a step back. I will ask you another question.** Go ahead, I'm listening. **What possible reasons could a person have for wanting to be wise and understanding?** A person might want to be wise and understanding so that they can be successful in life. I suppose you will now ask me what a successful life would look like. **You are right about that. What would a successful life look like to you? What would a successful look like to someone else?** Now, I'm starting to understand where you are headed with your questions. Someone might evaluate their success in life by how much they have acquired. They would think that their life is successful if they have acquired possessions, power and prestige in an abundance. They might think that their life has been successful if they have lived a life filled with comfort and pleasure. Their desire for wisdom and understanding would simply be tools on that path to their idea of success. **That's right. Is this how you view success? Is this why you want wisdom and understanding?** No, it is not.

How do you define success? My life will be successful if I have come to know and do your will. My life will be successful if I have born an abundance of fruit for your kingdom and brought glory to your name. **That is a very different definition of success.** Yes, it is. **Only my followers would ever hold on to that definition of success.** That's right. Loving, following and serving you is my desire and goal in life. **So, it should be easy for you to now tell me why you want to have wisdom and understanding.** I want to have wisdom and understanding so that I will be able to know and do your will. Wisdom and understanding from you, will guide me on the proper path in life. My life will succeed in bearing fruit for your kingdom and bringing glory to your name if I have your wisdom and understanding. **Yes, it will.** Without your wisdom and understanding I will be unable to know and do your will. **That's right.** It is my prayer that I will have your wisdom and understanding so that I can live my life fully for you. **That is a prayer that I will hear and answer.**

Lord, I want to be wise and understanding. I want my life to be filled with your wisdom and understanding. Help me to do humble deeds that display wisdom as I follow and serve you. Use my life to bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. Amen

Wisdom*Show It*

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

NIV

James 3:13

Wisdom*Show*

Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom.

ESV

James 3:13

Wisdom*Prove It*

If you are wise and understand God's ways, prove it by living an honorable life, doing good works with the humility that comes from wisdom.

NLT

James 3:13

Wisdom*Show By*

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.

NKJV

James 3:13

Wisdom*Show By*

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom.

NRSV

James 3:13

Wisdom*The Way You Live*

Do you want to be counted wise, to build a reputation for wisdom? Here's what you do: Live well, live wisely, live humbly. It's the way you live, not the way you talk, that counts.

MSG

James 3:13

Wisdom*Show Forth*

Who is there among you who is wise and intelligent? Then let him by his noble living show forth his [good] works with the [unobtrusive] humility [which is the proper attribute] of true wisdom.

AMP

James 3:13

Wisdom*Pour Forth*

If you are wise, live a life of steady goodness so that only good deeds will pour forth. And if you don't brag about them, then you will be truly wise!

TLB

James 3:13

Wisdom*Show By*

Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom.

NASB

James 3:13

Wisdom*Show It*

Are there those among you who are truly wise and understanding? Then they should show it by living right and doing good things with a gentleness that comes from wisdom.

NCV

James 3:13

Show It

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Wisdom – James 3:13

In Context: *Read James 3*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God’s Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. James 3:13

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Who is wise | and | understanding | among you? | Let him | show it | by his | good life, | by deeds | done | in the humility | that comes | from wisdom. James 3:13

Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Lord, I want to be wise and understanding. I want my life to be filled with your wisdom and understanding. Help me to do humble deeds that display wisdom as I follow and serve you. Use my life to bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. Amen

What It Means:

(What questions speak to your heart?) *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How strongly do you desire to live a life that is wise and understanding?

What actions do you consider to be very wise?

What actions do you consider to be very foolish?

Who has been a good role model for you by displaying wisdom through their actions?

Who has been a poor role model for you by displaying foolishness through their actions?

How does the conduct of your life show what wisdom looks like to others?

What humble and wise deeds are you doing on behalf of others?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Ask the Lord to show you what humble and wise deeds you can do for others as you follow and serve Him.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that the Lord will lead you to do humble deeds for others that display true wisdom and understanding.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord is leading you to humbly and wisely serve others.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Show It

James 3

Year ____ Week ____ Day ____ Date ____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you do wise, humble and good deeds for others as you follow and serve the Lord.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, help me to do wise, humble and good deeds for others today as I follow and serve you.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, what wise, humble and good deeds can I do for others today as I follow and serve you?
