

*If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.*

*James 1:5-8 (NIV)*

## **Lacking Wisdom**

That's me. **What do you mean that's you?** I'm the one. I'm lacking wisdom. There is no doubt about that. I have proven that point time and time again. I'm not lacking just a little bit of wisdom. I'm in desperate need of wisdom. **That's good for you to know. That's good for you to admit. Knowing that you desperately lack wisdom is the start of beginning to acquire wisdom.** I guess so. **What do you mean you guess so?** I'm more than a little discouraged that I so desperately need wisdom. By now, one would think that I would have some measure of wisdom. **Well, don't be discouraged. It will always be good for you to know that you desperately need wisdom.** Why is that? **Saying you desperately need wisdom is like saying you desperately need me.** I have never thought that admitting I need wisdom is like my saying I need you. **Hold on to that thought.** I will. **That's good.**

**Will there ever be a time when you don't desperately need me? Will there ever be a time when you will want to fend for yourself, without me? Will you ever have enough wisdom that you won't need to ask for my help?** No, certainly not. I will always desperately need you. I will never want to fend for myself, without you. I will never have so much wisdom that I will not need to ask for your help. Of these things, I am certain.

**Since you are so certain that you are lacking wisdom, I have a question for you.** What's that? **Why don't you ask for wisdom more often? Before you answer my question, I have more to say.** I'm listening. **You have been discouraged about your lack of wisdom.** That's true. **I don't want you to be discouraged about anything. I want you to be encouraged to ask me for more wisdom. But, I will say, if you were going to be discouraged about anything, might it be better to be more aware of the real problem.** What's the real problem? **You tell me.** The real problem is that I'm not asking you for wisdom nearly enough. **That's right.**

**Let me ask you a few more questions.** Go ahead, I'm listening. **Do you believe that I will answer your prayer when you ask me for wisdom?** Yes, I do. **Do you believe that I will generously give you all the wisdom you need?** Yes, I do. **Will there ever be a day when you won't need my wisdom?** No, I will need your wisdom every day as I love, follow and serve you. **Will you come to me every day to ask me for wisdom?** Yes Lord, I will. **That will be very good.**

*Heavenly Father, help me to come to you to ask for all the wisdom I will need to go through the trials I am experiencing. I believe you will hear and answer my prayers. Thank you for generously giving me all the wisdom I will need when I face difficult trials. Amen*

**God The Father** *Gives Generously*

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.

NIV James 1:5-8

**God The Father** *Gives Generously*

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. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

ESV James 1:5-8

**God The Father** *He Will Give It*

If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.

NLT James 1:5-8

**God The Father** *Gives To All Liberally*

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

NKJV James 1:5-8

**God The Father** *Gives To All Generously*

If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you. But ask in faith, never doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind; for the doubter, being double-minded and unstable in every way, must not expect to receive anything from the Lord.

NRSV James 1:5-8

**God The Father** *You'll Get His Help*

If you don't know what you're doing, pray to the Father. He loves to help. You'll get his help, and won't be condescended to when you ask for it. Ask boldly, believingly, without a second thought. People who "worry their prayers" are like wind-whipped waves. Don't think you're going to get anything from the Master that way, adrift at sea, keeping all your options open.

MSG James 1:5-8

**God The Father** *Gives To Everyone Liberally*

If any of you is deficient in wisdom, let him ask of the giving God [Who gives] to everyone liberally and ungrudgingly, without reproaching or faultfinding, and it will be given him. Only it must be in faith that he asks with no wavering (no hesitating, no doubting). For the one who wavers (hesitates, doubts) is like the billowing surge out at sea that is blown hither and thither and tossed by the wind. For truly, let not such a person imagine that he will receive anything [he asks for] from the Lord, [For being as he is] a man of two minds (hesitating, dubious, irresolute), [he is] unstable and unreliable and uncertain about everything [he thinks, feels, decides].

AMP James 1:5-8

**God The Father** *Give A Bountiful Supply*

If you want to know what God wants you to do, ask him, and he will gladly tell you, for he is always ready to give a bountiful supply of wisdom to all who ask him; he will not resent it. But when you ask him, be sure that you really expect him to tell you, for a doubtful mind will be as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind; and every decision you then make will be uncertain, as you turn first this way and then that. If you don't ask with faith, don't expect the Lord to give you any solid answer.

TLB James 1:5-8

**God The Father** *Gives To All Generously*

But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

NASB James 1:5-8

**God The Father** *He Is Generous*

But if any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He is generous and enjoys giving to all people, so he will give you wisdom. But when you ask God, you must believe and not doubt. Anyone who doubts is like a wave in the sea, blown up and down by the wind. Such doubters are thinking two different things at the same time, and they cannot decide about anything they do. They should not think they will receive anything from the Lord. [see verse 7]

NCV James 1:5-8



**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

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

*May you ask God for all the wisdom you need as you go through trials.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

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

*Heavenly Father, I will ask you for all the wisdom I need as I go through trials.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Heavenly Father, what wisdom do I need today as I go through trials?*

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