Date:

Scriptural Text:

Philippians 2:3-4; James 3:13-18

Main Points:

- 1. Wisdom comes from the word *Sophia* and means insight into the true nature of things.
- 2. Wisdom becomes part of who we are as we believe God, letting his Holy Spirit make us like him.
- 3. Envy and self-seeking are the two enemies of wisdom—wanting what we don't have; discontent with what we do have; putting our needs first.
- 4. Believing that God is faithful and trustworthy and that we are priceless beings are two beliefs that make wisdom possible.

Eight Traits of Wisdom:

- 1. Pure: Not contaminated with pride, sin, selfishness
- 2. Peace-loving: Willing to yield the right to have our way
- 3. Gentle/Considerate: Thinking of others whenever we are making decisions
- 4. Willing to yield: Submitting to God and laying our life down for others for the joy and honor of partnering with our amazing Lord
- 5. Merciful: An act of divine favor whereby we bear with others when they offend us
- 6. Fruitful: Doing God's work
- 7. Impartial: Accepting people without judgment
- 8. Living without hypocrisy: Genuine, not two-faced, living in agreement with our beliefs

Questions:

- 1. Is there something or someone in your life that tempts you to be envious? What can you do to begin to change this?
- 2. Referring to the eight traits, can you see evidence of wisdom in your life? List a few examples.
- 3. Which of the traits needs work? What false belief is blocking you from living in wisdom in this area?

Prayer of Response:

Lord God, I want to live my life with the wisdom that comes from above. Please show me any ways and false beliefs that are keeping me from living in your wisdom. Help me lay down my life for your sake, in response to all you have done for me. In Jesus name, amen.

Commitment: After prayerful meditation on this podcast, I am going to _____