



The Prayer of Faith and the Life of Humility with Pastor Max Frazier

James 1:5-11

AN INTRODUCTION

Wisdom is missing from our world today.

We focus upon education and knowledge.

Knowledge = “the gleaning of facts”

Wisdom = “application of knowledge to a situation”

A spiritual gift missing in today’s church is that of wisdom.

Discernment is a close companion to wisdom.

When both wisdom and discernment are absent, a church body will struggle with making right decision.

THE PRAYER OF FAITH

James 1:5-8

For what should we pray?

- When was the last time you prayed for wisdom?
- “Spiritual wisdom is using the opportunities God gives to us rightly.”

- I find that most often I just blunder ahead relying upon my own discernment.

An illustration – *Solomon (First Kings 3:3-14)*

- God gave Solomon essentially a “blank check” and told Solomon to fill in the amount.

- What would you have been tempted to ask of God?

- What did Solomon ask of God?

- Wisdom and discernment

To whom should we pray?

- To government? To friends?

- To God? Absolutely!

- God is the author of wisdom

- Illustration of King Jehoshaphat’s prayer (*Second Chronicles 20:12*)

How does God respond?

- God gives generously.

- Greek word means “wholeheartedly, without ulterior motive”

- God is entirely free from any calculations in His giving: “we have no credit limit with God.”

- God gives with no thought of getting anything in return.

- God gives because He delights in giving!

- God gives without finding fault.

How should we pray?

- We must pray with faith.
- We must pray believing God will answer.
- A prayer without faith is like the waves of the sea.
- A prayer without faith produces an instability in our actions because of double-mindedness.

What would cause a person to hesitate to ask God for wisdom?

- A feeling of inadequacy and unworthiness of asking God.
- A feeling that our request is undeserving of God's response (*Luke 12:7*)
- A feeling of being troubled by what is happening.

A LIFE OF HUMILITY

James 1:9-11

James calls our attention to the person who is poverty-stricken.

- That person has a high position as a child of God.

James calls our attention to the person who is rich in the things offered by the world.

- That person understands that things are transitory.

A CHALLENGE

The words of Jesus (*Luke 16:24-26*)

James reminds us that two things can happen:

- We discover that we need God's wisdom in order to move forward.
- We discover that what truly is valuable in life is the relationship we have with Jesus and with those around us.

NOTES



BUFFALO COVENANT

www.buffalocov.org