

SIX KEYS TO PEACE IN RELATIONSHIPS

Relationship Series – Part 1

JAMES 3:13-18

“If you are WISE and understand God's ways, you'll live a life of steady goodness so that only good deeds will pour forth. And if you don't brag about the good you do, then you will be truly WISE! But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your hearts, don't brag about being wise. That is the worst kind of lie. For jealousy and selfishness are not God's kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and motivated by the Devil. For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and every kind of evil.

The wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and good deeds. It shows no partiality and is always sincere.

Those who are PEACEMAKERS plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of goodness.
(NLT)

SIX THINGS WISE PEOPLE NEVER DO

(Verse 17)

1. *“Wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure.”*

If I want to be wise in my relationships...

“God grants a treasure of good sense to the godly. He is their shield, protecting those who walk with integrity.” Pr. 2:7 (NLT)

2. *“Wisdom is ... peace loving”*

If I want to be wise in my relationships...

“Any fool can start arguments: the wise thing is to stay out of them.” Pr. 20:3 (TEV)

“A wise man controls his temper. He knows that anger causes mistakes.” Pr. 14:29 (LB)

3. “Wisdom is... gentle all the time”
“considerate” (NIV) “courteous” (LB)

If I want to be wise in my relationships...

“Kind words bring life, but cruel words crush your spirit.” Pr. 15:4

4. “Wisdom is... willing to yield to others”
“Open to reason” (ESV) “allows discussion” (LB)

If I want to be wise in my relationships...

“Intelligent people are always open to new ideas. In fact, they look for them.”
Pr. 18:15 (NLT)

5. “Wisdom is... full of mercy and good deeds”

If I want to be wise in my relationships...

“Love forgets mistakes; nagging about them parts the best of friends.” Pr. 17:9 (LB)

6. “Wisdom... is impartial and always sincere”
“authentic” “genuine” (CEV) “without hypocrisy” (KJV)
Greek: *adiakritos* & *anypokritos*

If I want to be wise in my relationships...

“The lips of a liar conceal hostility and whoever spreads accusations is a fool.”
Pr. 10:18 (NAB)

“Jesus is the key that opens all the hidden treasures of God's wisdom and knowledge.”
Col. 2:3 (TEV)