

# WISDOM FOR PEACEMAKERS

## Strengthening Your Relationships – Part 1

### September 7, 2014

**James 3:13-17 (NLT)** *“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. <sup>14</sup> But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your heart, don’t cover up the truth with boasting and lying. <sup>15</sup> For jealousy and selfishness are not God’s kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual, and demonic. <sup>16</sup> For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind. <sup>17</sup> But the wisdom from above 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 favoritism and is always sincere.”*

**Wisdom has to do with relationships.  
It shows you how to treat others.**

**James 3:18 (NLT)** *“Those who are peacemakers plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness.”*

#### Six Foundations For Peaceful Relationships

##### 1. I won’t compromise my INTEGRITY.

**James 3:17a (NLT)** *“The wisdom that comes from above is first of all pure.”*

**Proverbs 2:7 (NLT)** *“He (God) grants a treasure of common sense to the honest. He is a shield to those who walk with integrity.”*

##### 2. I won’t antagonize your ANGER.

**James 3:17b (NLT)** *“The wisdom that comes from above is... peace loving”*

**Proverbs 14:29 (NLT)** *“People with understanding control their anger; a hot temper shows great foolishness.”*

##### 3. I won’t minimize your FEELINGS.

**James 3:17c (NLT)** *“The wisdom that comes from above is... gentle at all times.”*

#### Common Mistakes in Relationships...

- To REACT to what people say and ignore how people feel.
- To INVALIDATE any feelings that you don’t feel yourself.

**Proverbs 15:4 (GNT)** *“Kind words bring life, but cruel words crush your spirit.”*

##### 4. I won’t criticize your SUGGESTIONS.

**James 3:17d (NLT)** *“The wisdom that comes from above is... willing to yield to others”*

**Proverbs 18:15 (NLT)** *“Intelligent people are always ready to learn. Their ears are open for knowledge.”*

##### 5. I won’t emphasize your MISTAKES.

**James 3:17e (NLT)** *“The wisdom that comes from above is... full of mercy and good deeds”*

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

##### 6. I won’t disguise my INTENTIONS.

**James 3:17f (NLT)** *“The wisdom that comes from above... shows no favoritism and is always sincere”*

**Proverbs 10:18 (GNT)** *“Anyone who hides hatred is a liar. Anyone who spreads gossip is a fool.”*

**Colossians 2:3 (GNT)** *“He (Jesus) is the key that opens all the hidden treasures of God’s wisdom and knowledge.”*