

From the Pastor:

James 3:13 reads, “Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in meekness of wisdom.” The point here is: If someone is truly wise and truly understanding, that expertise should be evident in his/her conduct.

Such a person is not just “playing” at being a Christian or putting on a show of being a Christian. They are seeking to truly live as a Christian. What is a Christian? A Christian is one whose life actually reflects the life of Jesus Christ. Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 4:11, “For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus’ sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.” Paul was showing that we are to live so that the example of our lives is growing to be the same as the example of Jesus Christ’s life. As the apostle John said in 1 John 2:6, “He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.”

What does it mean to be wise and understanding? Wise is from the Greek “sophos” meaning “skilled, expert...forming the best plans and using the best means for their execution.” (Online Bible Greek Lexicon or OBGL) Danker’s Lexicon defines “sophos” as “pertaining to understanding that results in wise attitudes and conduct.”

Christian or Godly wisdom is thus knowing what God would do and how to best do it. This wisdom comes by asking God to help us understand how to apply His truth in our lives as we study to learn His truth. If you remember this instruction was in the beginning of James. “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.” (James 1:5) Through prayer we ask God for wisdom. But, unless God gives us a gift of wisdom (as He gave Solomon), we grow in wisdom only as God helps us through His Spirit to understand how to apply His laws and principles in our daily lives and decisions.

In James 3:13 “understanding” is from the Greek “epistemon” meaning “intelligent, experienced, one having the knowledge of an expert.” (OBGL) Danker’s definition is a little wordier, “pertaining to being knowledgeable in a way that makes one effectual in the exercise of such knowledge, expert...”

Expertise not only comes from having knowledge, but also, considerable experience in using and applying that knowledge.

God wants us to be experts in not only knowing His truth, but also, in knowing how to live by it.

James says we are to show our wisdom and understanding in God’s knowledge by how we live.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	5:55pm	5:59pm	6:03pm
Sunset Friday 1-25	6:00pm	6:03pm	6:08pm



Victoria

Sermon: Steve Moody

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: In Accord
Sermon: Arnold Mendez

Harlingen

Split Sermon: Orlando Mascorro
Split Sermon: Arnold Mendez

“My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and long life and peace they will add to you.”

Proverbs 3:1-2

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 1/19	Regular times and locations for all congregations.
Sabbath 1/26	Regular times and locations for all congregations. Mr. Moody will be in Corpus Christi. Mr. Chapman will be in Victoria and San Antonio. Mr. Watts will present the sermon in Harlingen.

Summer FI Continuing Education Seminar:

The faculty and administration of Foundation Institute are excited to announce the dates of this summer's FI Continuing Education seminar. These weeklong seminars held each summer in the FI classroom have been very successful in providing an additional opportunity for biblical education for those who are able to attend. A number of people plan to return every year for the classes and fellowship.

This year we will be offering one seminar in the new building, which is in McKinney, Texas. The seminar will be five days long, beginning on Monday morning and ending on Friday afternoon. The dates are July 15-19, 2019. The seminar will offer 29 one-hour classes taught by a variety of instructors and administrators from the headquarters office. The cost for the classes is \$75 per person or \$125 per couple. As in the past, we plan to provide a light lunch each day at no additional charge.

Because of the move to the new building, we will not open registration until the month of February. Thank you for your interest and support for Foundation Institute.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Pot Luck: The next potluck will be February 2.

Corpus Christi – 4th Annual Goose Island State Park Campout. February 22nd – 24th. There will be no local services that Sabbath in Corpus Christi; Sabbath services will be at the campout.