

# STEPS TO BECOMING A WISE FOOL

I Corinthians 3:18-4:5

## I. Two Kinds of Wisdom (James 3:13-17)

### A. Divine Wisdom

What is divine wisdom? (James 3:13, 17)

### B. Human wisdom

What is human wisdom? (James 3:14-16)

Summary: James says that the spirit which promotes, tolerates, and brings about divisions is of the earth (not heaven), of the natural man (not the Spirit of God), and of the devil (not the Lord).

## II. Steps to Becoming a Wise Fool for Christ

### (I Corinthians 3:18-4:5)

#### A. Stay Humble enough to keep learning (3:18-20)

The Corinthians were self-deceived in that they had the impression that they knew it all. If it is not the wisdom of the world that God wants us to learn, what is His plan for us? How does Christian wisdom actually begin?

#### B. Don't exalt other people (3:21-23)

If you exalt other people, what does that perpetuate in your life, and who are you obscuring?

#### C. Exercise faithfulness (4:2)

It is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. What is it that God truly honors, and that brings us back to the foot of His throne? Sometimes we are so preoccupied with counting our spiritual fruit that we forget to spend time watering our roots by just serving Jesus. Let the living water soak into the depths of your soul. That is true worship, and that is God's purpose for our lives.

D. Do not let other people's opinions of you deter you from doing what is right (4:3-4)

Paul did not care that the Corinthians were judgmental toward him. If pleasing people was not Paul's motivation, what was his driving passion?

#### E. Leave judgment and criticism with the Lord (4:4b-5)

Who is the only one who can judge our lives fairly? Who alone can reveal the things we hide in the darkness? Who alone knows our motives and has a clear view into our hearts?