

**A Revival Of Our Hearts**  
**“Finding Wisdom In Difficult Times”**  
**Cornerstone Church Of Poway**  
**Pastor Ed Turley**  
**April 26, 2020**

**Big Idea:** We need a revival in our hearts and homes that changes our lives.

“If you **need wisdom**, ask our generous God, and He will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. But **when you ask Him**, be sure that your **faith is in God alone**. Do not waver, for a person with **divided loyalty** is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Their **loyalty is divided** between God and the world, and they are **unstable** in everything they do.” **James 1:5-8 (NLT2)**

**The Problem With Divided Loyalty:**

- Unstable Emotions
- Unstable Relationships
- Unstable Spiritual Life

**To Receive God’s Wisdom:**

**1. I Must Humbly Admit \_\_\_\_\_.**

“If you **need wisdom**, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking.” **James 1:5 (NLT2)**

“Come close to God, and God will come close to you.” **James 4:8a (NLT2)**

**Remember Verse**

“As Pharaoh approached, the people of Israel looked up and **panicked** when they saw the Egyptians overtaking them. They cried out to the LORD, and they said to Moses, “**Why** did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness? Weren’t there enough graves for us in Egypt? What have you done to us? Why did you make us leave Egypt? Didn’t we tell you this would happen while we were still in Egypt? We said, ‘Leave us alone! **Let us be slaves** to the Egyptians. It’s better to be a slave in Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness!’” But Moses told the people, “Don’t be afraid. Just **stand still** and watch **the LORD rescue** you today. The Egyptians you see today will never be seen again. **The LORD himself will fight for you**. Just stay calm.” **Exodus 14:10-14 (NLT2)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. I Must Seek God's Direction \_\_\_\_\_.

"If you need wisdom, **ask our generous God**, and He will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking." **James 1:5 (NLT2)**

"Tune your **ears** to wisdom, and **concentrate** on **understanding**. **Cry out** for insight, and **ask for understanding**. **Search** for them as you would for silver; seek them like hidden treasures. Then you will understand what it means to **fear the LORD**, and you will gain knowledge of God. For the LORD **grants wisdom!** From his mouth come **knowledge and understanding**. He grants a treasure of **common sense to the honest**. He is a shield to those who **walk with integrity**." **Proverbs 2:2-7 (NLT2)**

Jesus said, "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into **practice** is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it **did not fall**, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and **does not put them into practice** is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash." **Matthew 7:24-27 (NIV)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. I Must Put My Trust \_\_\_\_\_.

"But **when you ask him**, be sure that your **faith is in God alone**. Do not waver, for a person with **divided loyalty** is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind." **James 1:6 (NLT2)**

"You are a witness to your own decision," Joshua said. "You have chosen to serve the LORD." "Yes," they replied, "we are witnesses to what we have said." "All right then," Joshua said, "**destroy the idols among you**, and **turn your hearts to the LORD**, the God of Israel." **Joshua 24:22-23 (NLT2)**

"And it is impossible to please God without **faith**. Anyone who wants to come to Him must believe that **God exists** and that **He rewards** those who sincerely seek him." **Hebrews 11:6 (NLT2)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

➤ **How has this crisis revealed my relationship with God?**

**My next right step, I will seek wisdom for my life by:**

- Admitting I need God's help
- Seeking God's direction through personal Bible Study
- Putting my trust in God alone
- Inviting Jesus to be the Lord of my life

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**Family Corner:** [Choose one day this week to ask questions to go deeper in faith as a family. Try this over dinner. Keep it to 12 minutes or less.]

**Small Groups:** [Choose as many questions that honors your group's time commitment]

**Open in Prayer:**

- What thoughts from this week's message encourages me to live a life for Jesus?

**Icebreaker:** What are your top three prayer requests?

**Big Idea:** We need a revival in our hearts and homes that changes our lives.

“Come close to God, and God will come close to you.” **James 4:8a (NLT2)**

**Remember Verse** (Try to memorize this)

**Read James 1:5-8**

What are some of the problems of having a divided loyalty between God and this world?

**To Receive God's Wisdom:**

**1. I Must Humbly Admit I Need God's Help.**

**Read James 1:5**

When you need wisdom...

“Come close to God, and God will come close to you.” **James 4:8a (NLT2)**

**Remember Verse**

**Read Exodus 14:10-14**

What are some of the miraculous signs God performed to get Pharaoh to release the Jewish nation?

After experiencing these miracles, wouldn't you think their faith would be stronger?

Why do we often want to go back to things that kept us in bondage?

How has God rescued you in the past?

## **2. I Must Seek God's Direction Through His Word.**

### **Read James 1:5**

What promise can you claim from this verse?

### **Read Proverbs 2:2-7**

List the ways that describe how we should seek God's wisdom.

What is God's promise?

### **Read Matthew 7:24-27**

What must we do to build a solid foundation?

How is your foundation?

What is the warning of a weak foundation?

How has this current storm affected you?

## **3. I Must Put My Trust In God Alone.**

### **Read James 1:6**

How has this crisis affected my faith in God?

### **Read Joshua 24:22-23**

How could the Israelites still be holding onto some idols?

What idol do you tend to hold onto?

### **Read Hebrews 11:6**

What two things does this verse reveal about faith in God?

How well does your faith match up to this verse?

**Close in Prayer:** Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.

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