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## Introduction

1 Corinthians 1: 18–25

### I. Purpose

That Christians would apply the Gospel to their lives and thus live wisely and in the fear of the Lord.

### II. Authorship & Date

### III. Context & Emphasis

**Romans 3:28:** “We hold that a man is justified by faith apart from works of law”

**James 2:24:** “You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone.”

Justification as a declaration vs. demonstration of righteousness

Our faith alone saves us but it is never alone. True faith is always accompanied by good works.

### IV. Structure & Outline

1. **Chapter 1: Intro**
2. **Chapter 2: Wisdom in Generosity**
3. **Chapters 3-4: Wisdom in Speech**
4. **Chapter 5: Wisdom in Use of Wealth**



**V. Major Themes**

**A. Harmony between the law and gospel**

*Three uses of the Law*

- 1. First use: to restrain sin (Romans 1-2)**
  
- 2. Second use: to convict of sin (Galatians 3)**
  
- 3. Third use: to instruct in wisdom (James)**

**Relationship to Matthew 5-7**

<b>James</b>	<b>Matthew</b>	<b>James</b>	<b>Matthew</b>	<b>James</b>	<b>Matthew</b>
1:2	5:11f.	2:10-11	5:19-22	4:9	5:4
1:4	5:48	2:13	5:7	4:11-12	7:1
1:5	7:7	3:12	7:16	4:13-14	6:34
1:17	7:11	3:18	5:9	5:2	6:19-20
1:20	5:22	4:2-3	7:7-8	5:9	5:22, 7:1
1:22-24	7:24-26	4:4	6:24	5:10	5:11-12
2:5	5:3-5	4:8	6:22	5:12	5:34-35

**B. Faithful Submission**

The wisdom of God vs. this world (James 3:13-18)

**C. Practical Obedience**

Be doers of God’s word (**James 1: 25**)

**VI. Three Arenas**

**Generous Love (James 2:1-16)**



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**Careful Speech (James 3:1-12; 4:1-3, 11-17)**

**Compassionate Wealth (James 1:9-11, 27; 4:13-17)**

**VII. Application**

**1. Pursue true wisdom**

Are you seeking wisdom from God's Word?

**2. Examine relationships**

Are you showing favoritism to others based upon what they look like, what they do, or their similarities to you?

**3. Meditate on James**

Is your faith evidencing itself in good works? Do you have people in your life who can help you grow in this way?