

## better together ~ Part 5

**One big reason our relationships fall apart is that we make decisions based on our feelings, instead of on facts.**

*<sup>13</sup> 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 the fruit of good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere.*

*<sup>18</sup> And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness. James 3:13-18 NLT*

### Fact #1:

Relationships fall apart when I \_\_\_\_\_ from them.

*<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.*

### Truth for you:

As long as you are ruled by fear, you will manipulate and control people.

### Fact #2:

Relationships are healthy when I \_\_\_\_\_ about them.

*<sup>17</sup> But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. James 3:17*

*<sup>15</sup> from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Tim 3:15-17 (NIV)*

### Truth for you:

You need God's Word, to get God's wisdom, to have healthier relationships!

### Fact #3:

Relationships are healthy when you \_\_\_\_\_ into them.

*<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 the fruit of good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere. <sup>18</sup> And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness.*

Truth for you:

You get out of relationships what you invest.

You have to cultivate healthy relationships with people.

Grace givers will always have healthier relationships than manipulators!

## Journey Group Discussion

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions, and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step. If you're leading a group through this guide, don't feel like you have to answer every question. Pick out those questions that will stir up conversation and action among your group.

We said: **One big reason our relationships fall apart is that we make decisions based on our feelings, instead of on facts.**

What's your reaction to that statement? Give an example of a time when you made a decision based on feelings that didn't turn out like you expected.

Read James 3:13-18. Discuss the facts and truth that resonate most with you and give examples:

Fact 1: Relationships fall apart when I focus only on what I get from them.

Truth for you: As long as you are ruled by fear, you will manipulate and control people.

Fact 2: Relationships are healthy when I learn wisdom from God about them.

Truth for you: You need God's Word, to get God's wisdom, to have healthier relationships!

Fact 3: Relationships are healthy when you invest yourself into them.

Truth for you: You get out of relationships what you invest. You have to cultivate healthy relationships with people.