

EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

Dear Lord, thank You for the divine wisdom and understanding You have generously given those who have earnestly asked for it. Thank You for the people in our community who reflect Your goodness in their attitudes and actions.

Help us be humble doers of Your Word and not puffed-up hearers. Help us identify wisdom in humility – as You do. Forgive us for thinking of ourselves first, for letting our preferences guide our decisions, for acknowledging what might be personally gained and then allowing these sinful perspectives to motivate us.

When we feel tempted to assert our desires, please quiet our thoughts and give us pause. When we selfishly want what others have, please help us remember all that You are and all that You have done.

Help us not settle for human initiative and keen ideas that come from walking by sight. Give us a distaste and dissatisfaction for endeavors with even a hint of prideful motivation. Only You can purify our hearts and minds. Give us grace to wholly commit our wants and ways to You.

Father, give us a hunger for unity and an affection toward harmony. Make us attentive to the needs of others as you cultivate Your love in us and develop our ability to fully think a matter through.

Jesus, as we make Your Kingdom and Glory our highest aim, help us intentionally aim to make less and less of ourselves. Spirit, fill us with loving-kindness - evidence of Your consistent leadership. Holy God, give us open-minded objectivity and heartfelt compassion as we make our plans and chart our paths.

In the capacities where You've assigned us to follow... and in the areas where You've entrusted us to lead... We confess that without Your help, our choices only lead toward confusion and chaos. We commit to do the work to diligently dig deep and patiently plant seeds of truth in the lives of those around us. We depend on Your Word to light our way as we venture to encourage others with trust and hope. We pledge to do our best to keep in step with Your Spirit, believing You are the source for all protection and peace.

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Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

James 3:13-18

