

## Study Notes based on Sunday 22 April 2018

### The Spiritual Gift of Wisdom 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

1. Richard's dictionary definition of wisdom was basically 'good judgment'. Consider this alongside these suggested definitions of the spiritual gift of wisdom:

In I Corinthians 12:8 Paul writes, "To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom" (NIV). The Biblical use of the word wisdom puts the emphasis on the thought process that takes the scriptures and makes an intelligent application to a life situation. The result is insight which allows one to exercise sound judgment. To have the gift of wisdom then is to be able to apply Biblical, spiritual knowledge to living a Godly life. It is also being able to make scriptural truths relevant and practical in everyday living and decision-making. The "message of wisdom" is being able to know the mind of Christ and His word as it pertains to specific situations. A person with this gift loves to read, meditate and commune with God, drawing wisdom that applies the scriptures to everyday living. It is similar to a mechanic being able to hear a car run and know what is wrong and how to fix it. They are wise in automobile mechanics. This gift allows a person to "hear" life situations and apply truth to the situation.

'Seeing life from God's perspective'

2. 'God's wisdom isn't necessarily the same as our wisdom.' See 1 Corinthians 1:18- 21. Can you think of Biblical examples of this? Richard gave us several on Sunday morning. Will God's wisdom always seem foolish?
3. How do we receive wisdom from God? See Proverbs 3:7; 19:20 and James 1:5.
4. How may we distinguish between wisdom which is available to all and the spiritual gift of wisdom which is available (like all spiritual gifts) to some as the Holy Spirit chooses?
5. How can wisdom operate corporately rather than individually i.e. in the context of a church making decisions about the future. See Acts 1:20- 26; Acts 6:3-6; Acts 13:2-4; Acts 15:25; Acts 15:28