

Wisdom of the Bible ~ Ambition ~ Discussion Questions

1. In the dictionary, the word “ambition” has two primary meanings: a) an ardent desire for rank, fame, or power and b) a desire to achieve a particular end. What’s the difference between these two meanings? Is having ambition good or bad?
2. What does God think about the first kind of ambition? (Genesis 11:5-8)
3. What is the motivation behind this first kind of ambition? (Ecclesiastes 4:4)
4. What is often the result of this type of ambition? (1 Timothy 6:9-10)
5. How did Jesus respond to the ambition of Zebedee’s sons and their mother? Why were the other disciples indignant? (Matthew 20:20-28, Mark 10:35-45)
6. When does honorable ambition become dishonorable?
7. How can jealousy and pride destroy the unity of a group of people?
8. How does our culture follow the Gentile pattern of leadership? (Matthew 20:25)
9. Do we ever make unreasonable requests of God? How? Why do we do so?
10. What does God say should be the pattern of our ambition? (Proverbs 16:1, 19:21, Joshua 1:8, James 4:13-16, 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12)