

# THE WAYS OF WISDOM

## The Treasure of a Teachable Spirit

### **Proverbs 12:1**

Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid.

### **The Importance of Having a Teachable Spirit**

- A teachable spirit is our only hope in gaining the knowledge we need to succeed.
- We cannot be disciples of Jesus without a teachable spirit.
- The decision to be teachable is a choice all of us must make for ourselves.

### **Five Characteristics of an Unteachable Spirit**

#### **1. Chronic failure**

##### **Matthew 7:7-8**

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

##### **John 16:13**

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

#### **2. An argumentative and defensive nature**

##### **Proverbs 9:8-9**

Do not correct a scoffer, lest he hate you; rebuke a wise man, and he will love you. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

##### **Proverbs 9:13**

A foolish woman is clamorous; she is simple, and knows nothing.

##### **Proverbs 21:9**

Better to dwell in a corner of a housetop, than in a house shared with a contentious woman.

#### **3. Isolation and withdrawal in time of difficulty**

**Proverbs 18:1-2**

A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; he rages against all wise judgment. A fool has no delight in understanding, but in expressing his own heart.

**4. Transfer blame****5. Surrounding yourself with people who agree with you and feeling threatened by those of differing opinions****Five Root Causes of an Unteachable Spirit****1. Pride****Isaiah 53:6**

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all

**Proverbs 16:18**

Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

**James 4:6**

God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

**2. Rebellion & Independence****Ephesians 5:21**

...submitting to one another in the fear of God.

**3. Insecurity****4. Foolishness****Proverbs 22:15**

Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; the rod of correction will drive it far from him.

**Proverbs 15:14**

The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouth of fools feeds on foolishness.

**5. Laziness**

**Proverbs 26:16**

The lazy man is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who can answer sensibly.

**Proverbs 13:4**

The soul of a lazy man desires, and has nothing; but the soul of the diligent shall be made rich.

**The Four Characteristics of a Teachable Spirit**

**1. Humility**

**2. Graciously and accepting correction and input**

**Proverbs 9:8**

Rebuke a wise man and he will love you.

**3. Seeking wise counsel and input in times of decision, difficulty, or chronic failure**

**Proverbs 11:14**

Where there is no counsel, the people fall; but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.

**Proverbs 15:22**

Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.

**4. Submitting to authority and staying accountable**