



... Heart to Heart ...

A relationship with the Lord is a way in which one walks, with right attitudes and desires that are spiritually beneficial. If our profession of Christ isn't leading us into upright behavior and character, our faith is of no value.

Proverbs speaks of “knowing” wisdom and instruction, “discern” understanding and “receiving” instruction for wise behavior (Prov. 1:2-3) these are the areas that affect our faith and relationship with the Lord.

“To know wisdom and instruction...” What is instruction good for? What does it do? Instruction is what teaches, directs and guides a person. We need to be a person that can be instructed. **“Fools despise wisdom and instruction.”** (Prov. 1:7) A person that is foolish in their lives is one you can't instruct and guide. They refuse to listen, as every thing is seen through their own eyes, and nothing else matters. You instruct a fool and they will get upset!! Their behavior will show their wisdom, if it is from God or from the world.

“To discern the sayings of understanding...” Why does one need understanding? It gives us discernment. Discernment is the ability to recognize what's needed. As one gains understanding, they are able to discern the proper moves or decisions that need to be made.

“To receive instruction in wise behavior...” When one can receive instruction, it always affects their behavior. When one receives instruction, their behavior becomes wise. Have you ever had someone argue with you when you gave them wise instruction? Look at their walk in life and their behavior will show a lack of wisdom. Many times parents see it in the life of their children.

In Matt. 12:42, Jesus paid Solomon a great compliment. The Queen of Sheba traveled over 1000 miles to hear wisdom, discern understanding, and receive instruction. Jesus informed them someone greater than Solomon is here and they were putting forth little effort to know, discern, and receive. In the end, it cost them dearly in their personal life and their soul.

What about you? Do you desire to know wisdom and instruction? Are you discerning understanding? How well do you receive instruction? These are a key test to finding out if we are foolish or wise. **“When pride comes, then comes dishonor, but with the humble is wisdom.”** (Prov. 11:2) Think about it!!!

Brent