

PROVERBS

Lesson 6 – Wisdom’s Teaching Methods

1. Several of the ways we learn wisdom are noted in 9:7-9. What are they and how are reactions to them contrasted?
2. As noted in the previous passage, one of the ways wisdom is conveyed is through instruction. According to these passages, how are we to respond to instruction and why: 13:13; 19:16, 27; 23:12?
3. Of all of wisdom’s teaching methods, instruction is one of the easiest for us to accept. But more difficult to swallow is rebuke. What do 15:31 and 25:12 say should be our response to rebuke? Of what value is it? What does 25:12 say about the source of valuable rebuke?
4. According to 17:10 who benefits for rebuke? What is the end of those who repeatedly resist rebuke (29:1)?
5. Other sometimes difficult methods of instruction employed by wisdom are discipline and correction. What comparison is made in 12:1? What consequences are in store for those who heed discipline and correction and for those who do not (13:18; 15:32)?
6. Not only does one’s response to discipline affect oneself, it also affects others. What is that effect according to 10:17?
7. Above all, what discipline are we to welcome (3:11-12)? Why?
8. Not only do those who would be wise benefit from the correction and rebuke of others, but also from their advice. What do these verses say about the relationship between advice and wisdom: 12:15; 19:20?
9. It is only the humble who are willing to submit to wisdom’s methods of instruction. And humility is a virtue that proverbs exalts. What do 16:18; 18:12; and 29:23 say about humility and pride? Why do you think that is true?
10. Recalling what Proverbs says about the oppressed (15:15), read 16:19. How highly should we value humility?