

# I Quit: Stupid People

(( HOW TO TALK TO STUPID PEOPLE ))

May 29, 2011

Message 6

## Review

*Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.*

Proverbs 4:23

**THEME:** Quit what doesn't give life and rediscover what does!

**PRAY • SECRETLY, WE BELIEVE THAT SOME PEOPLE ARE STUPID // WHAT I'VE TRIED**

*Whoever corrects a mocker invites insult; whoever rebukes a wicked man incurs abuse. Do not rebuke a mocker or he will hate you; rebuke a wise man and he will love you. Instruct a wise man and he will be wiser still; teach a righteous man and he will add to his learning.*

Proverbs 9:7-9

**SMART PEOPLE LISTEN TO REBUKE, STUPID PEOPLE DON'T, DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME**

*I quit wasting my efforts on stupid people*

**THIS SOUNDS HARSH AND YOU WILL WANT TO ARGUE, BUT CHECK OUT THESE VERSES**

## Proverbs says...

- ▶ Don't waste your **t i m e** (Pr 14:7, 17:12, 13:20)
- ▶ Don't waste your **m o n e y** (Pr 17:16)
- ▶ Don't waste your **w o r d s** (Pr 23:9)

**SO QUIT WASTING YOUR EFFORTS**

## But what about "do not judge"?

- ▶ Matthew 7:1-6
- ▶ Matthew 18:15-17
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 5:1-5

**FOOLISHNESS HAS A "POINT OF NO RETURN"**

*Though you grind a fool in a mortar, grinding him like grain with a pestle, you will not remove his folly from him.*

Pr 27:22

**SO QUIT WASTING YOUR EFFORTS**

## How to Quit

### STEP #1:

**Don't a s s u m e someone is a fool until they p r o v e it.**

- ▶ A fool trusts only **h i m s e l f**. (Pr 28:26, 12:15)

- ▶ A fool shows no **s e l f - c o n t r o l** & lives **i m p u l s i v e l y**. (Pr 12:16)
- ▶ A fool justifies **e v i l**. (Pr 14:9, 10:23)
- ▶ A fool lives only for the **p r e s e n t**. (Pr 14:8, 21:20)

The most important test:

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.*

Proverbs 1:7

### STEP #2:

**Challenge s t u p i d i t y in yourself and o t h e r s.**

*Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you will be like him yourself. Answer a fool according to his folly, or he will be wise in his own eyes.*

Proverbs 26:4-5

**SPEAK ACCORDING TO AUTHORITY (BIBLE), PRINCIPLES AND PATHS NOT PASSIONS OF PRESENT EMPHASIZE GRACE AND THE HOLY SPIRIT • IF YOU HAVE FOUND A FOOL, THE LAST STEP IS CRUCIAL**

### STEP #3:

**Establish clear b o u n d a r i e s for yourself.**

*Like cutting off one's feet or drinking violence is the sending of a message by the hand of a fool. Like a lame man's legs that hang limp is a proverb in the mouth of a fool. Like tying a stone in a sling is the giving of honor to a fool. Like a thornbush in a drunkard's hand is a proverb in the mouth of a fool. Like an archer who wounds at random is he who hires a fool or any passer-by. As a dog returns to its vomit, so a fool repeats his folly.*

Pr 26:6-11

**~ I WILL NOT SUFFER FOR THE DECISIONS OF A FOOL ~**

*If you are wise, your wisdom will reward you; if you are a mocker, you alone will suffer.*

Pr 9:12

## Isn't this all a little harsh? What about...?

**LINGERING QUESTIONS // MARRIED A FOOL, IN LOVE WITH A FOOL, MY FOOL CAN CHANGE  
I CAN'T TAKE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE STUPIDITY OF OTHERS  
I CAN MODEL AND INSTRUCT, BUT MUST HOPE FOR GOD TO RESCUE THEM**

*Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.*

2 Timothy 2:23-26