

## Progressive Ignorance - Introduction

<b>Spirit</b>	<b>Soul</b>	<b>Body</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The capacity for God's presence – I Thes. 5:23</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The capacity for God's Word</li><li>- Mind, will &amp; emotions</li><li>- Operates on word content</li><li>- Memory</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The projection of an image</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Jesus is the Way John 14:6</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Jesus is the Truth John 14:6</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Jesus is the Life John 14:6</li></ul>

# Progressive Ignorance - The Simple Fool

## Development of Spiritual Leadership

### Behavior of a Simple Fool

1. The simple fool believes every word – Proverbs 14:15; Romans 16:18.
2. The simple fool is a follower.
3. The simple fool is ignorant of cause and effect law – Proverbs 22:3.
4. The simple fool is corrupted by the scorning fool – Proverbs 19:25; 21:11.

### Basis of Wise Decisions

1. All decisions must have for their aim the fulfillment of a command (obedience).
2. All decisions must have the restraining power of the Holy Spirit (self-control).
3. All decisions must have the fear of consequences (fear of the Lord).

### Characteristics of a Simple Fool:

1. Open to all kinds of enticements and deceptions – Genesis 3:1-6; Proverbs 7
2. Lacks the mental ability to discern good and evil
3. Lacks maturity
4. Easily deceived
5. Trapped by his own curiosity
6. Easily led away from the path of right
7. Lacks understanding of irreversible consequences
8. Unguarded concerning gossip
9. Is an open door for the corruption of many – Romans 5:12-13

### Treatment for the Simple Fool:

1. Must be trained in godly wisdom and biblical commands – Psalm 19:7; Proverbs 1:1-4
2. Must have a leader that encourages him in the Word of God
3. Must be taught the non-optional principles of life – Proverbs 8:5
4. Must be told and shown how scorning fools are punished – Proverbs 21:11

# Progressive Ignorance - The Silly Fool

## Involvement of Willful Rebellion

### Behavior of a Silly Fool

1. The silly fool seeks only a good time.
2. The silly fool has fun breaking rules.
3. The silly fool is committed to wrong friends.
4. The silly fool has guilt for wrong doing.

### Characteristics of a Silly Fool:

1. Has violated moral purity as a result of curiosity and the rejection of parental authority
2. Is thickheaded – Proverbs 10:21
3. Reacts to instruction – Proverbs 1:7
4. Believes that his thinking is absolutely right – Proverbs 12:15
5. Learns only by punishment – Proverbs 29:9
6. Becomes angry and does more damage when things go wrong
7. Is careless with words that result in getting him into trouble – Proverbs 20:3; 10:1

### Treatment for the Silly Fool:

1. Train him to be a giver vs. a taker
2. Inform his authorities of misdeeds
3. Separate him from wrong friends
4. Help him gain a clear conscience

# Progressive Ignorance - The Sensual Fool

## Focused on Physical Senses

### Behavior of a Sensual Fool

1. The sensual fool will develop a dedication to wrong types of friends – Proverbs 13:20.
2. The sensual fool becomes involved in drugs and other bad habits – Proverbs 17:24.
3. The sensual fool will engage in immorality – Proverbs 10:23.
4. The sensual fool becomes skilled in deception – Proverbs 18:6-7; Proverbs 19:1.

### Characteristics of a Sensual Fool:

1. Fails to receive the correction of parents, public authorities and may even react to any type of correction
2. Can be lazy and stubborn
3. Has a bent for making wrong choices
4. Rejects God's wisdom and His ways
5. Is arrogantly set on doing what brings immediate pleasure
6. Has physical drives as his god
7. Boasts in what he should be ashamed of
8. Appears to prosper
9. Is unreasonable

### Treatment for the Sensual Fool:

1. Must be turned over to the structures of authority that are responsible for the process of correction – Proverbs 19:29; 26:3
2. Must be trained in how to conquer the three root sins – I John 2:16
  - lust of the flesh (immorality)
  - lust of the eyes (greed)
  - pride of life (bitterness)
3. Must be trained how to break wrong soul ties – I Corinthians 6:16,18
4. Must be understood but never trusted

# Progressive Ignorance - The Scorning Fool

## Manifestation of Spiritual Opposition

### Behavior of a Scorning Fool

1. The scorning fool despises rules and authorities whether they are parental, civil or spiritual – Proverbs 9:7-8; Proverbs 15:12.
2. The scorning fool creates unrest as a result of his contentious attitudes and use of words – Proverbs 22:10.
3. The scorning fool boasts of his evil ways which he presents as heroic acts – Proverbs 1:22.
4. The scorning fool will draw simple fools into his evil ways.

### Characteristics of a Scorning Fool:

1. Is mouthy and stubborn
2. Uses facial expressions to communicate disdain and contempt for God-ordained structures of authority
3. Rejects truth and embraces that which is an abomination to God
4. Shows strong dislike toward people and ideas which contradict his beliefs that are with the spirit of error
5. Expresses rejection through attitudes and behavior
6. Mocks godly people in order to dishonor and ridicule their standards
7. Rejects instructions completely

### Treatment for the Scorning Fool:

1. Must be confined to constant supervision
2. Must have the humiliation of public punishment – Proverbs 27:5
3. Must be separated from others in order to discover his inward drive that influences others – Proverbs 9:12
4. Must be kept busy with hard work and held accountable to make restitution for the damage he has caused others – Proverbs 21:24; Psalm 107:17

# Progressive Ignorance - The Steadfast Fool

## The Conversion Power of an Irreverent Spirit

### Behavior of a Steadfast Fool

1. The steadfast fool has a hardened or insensitive conscience – Job 30:8.
2. The steadfast fool believes it is right to do wrong – Ps. 14:1-3.
3. The steadfast fool is well-versed in the area of reasoning in defense of his ways that deviate from right.
4. The steadfast fool seeks to influence followers for self-gain.

### Characteristics of a Steadfast Fool:

1. Refuses to live by moral standards
2. Has no respect for the effort to be innocent or blameless in all his ways
3. Is confident of his strengths or abilities
4. Is completely closed-in by a mental disposition that is absent of any consideration concerning God, His authority or His ways
5. Is completely committed to being his own god and gratifying his lower nature
6. Is dedicated to drawing others into his evil ways
7. Will infiltrate families, churches, and godly institutions and lead captive the simple and the weak

### Treatment for the Steadfast Fool

1. Must be totally separated from others in order to discover the drive that is within him
2. Needs to be constantly exposed to the laws of God revealed through nature or creational operation
3. Must never be argued with but must experience the exposure of his insufficient mental dispositions
4. Must be used as a means of warning to all people around him because of his dangerous beliefs that influence others

# Progressive Ignorance - The Development of the Will

## A. Curiosity

1. An eager desire to learn or experience
2. Initiated by one who arouses interest

## B. Counsel

1. Advice given
2. A plan for an action or behavior

## C. Reasoning

1. A thought that originates from an explanation or justification
2. Thoughts that are the result of an influence
3. Thoughts that result from a logical defense
4. Thoughts that are agreeable to a source of reasoning

## D. Will

1. The faculty of the mind by which we determine either to do or forebear an action
2. The faculty which is exercised in deciding among two or more objects which we will embrace or pursue
3. Directed or influenced by judgment  
(We reason with respect to the value or importance of things.)  
(We judge that which is preferred; we will take what we value most.)
4. Seeks what brings us pleasure
5. Determines our direction in life
6. Is the power of our lives
7. Is the purpose of our lives