

## Learnability

Foundation Scripture: Hos 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee.

### A. Definition.

1. Importance of words.
  - a) Pro 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue.
  - b) Matt 12:37 You are justified by the words of your mouth.
2. Importance of the process of definition.
  - a) Words and their meanings are the tools which access the components of life. Some are cultural e. g. names for Chinese family relationships. Some are based on trends and fads e.g. that is to die for.
  - b) Deceit of satan. By hiding certain concepts, people can be more easily deceived or led into sin. Forgive and forgiveness; unforgive and unforgiveness; unforgivingness is the process
3. Two definitions.
  - a) Teachability from Webster – ability to learn by instruction.
  - b) Learnability from ABC – willingness to learn by instruction.

### B. Teachability.

1. Teachability from Webster – ability to learn by instruction.
  - a) Surprisingly enough, teachability is really a proper word in English.
  - b) There is only 1 meaning referring to the person being taught. A secondary meaning, referring to the object or lesson being taught, is “the suitability for use in teaching”.
  - c) Teachability is a noun. The corresponding adjective describing it is “teachable”.
2. Teachable has 2 meanings referring to a person **though** the noun has only 1 meaning.
  - a) Capable of being taught. A teachable person (*meaning 1*) has teachability. This is a function of intelligence and cognitive processes (i.e. how the brain works).
  - b) Willing to learn. There is no noun for this second meaning. This lesser used meaning is often obvious in classes where attendance is mandated. This is a function of heart, soul and mind & is very important for people to recognize. It is so critical in spiritual warfare that I have coined a Word, “learnability”. A teachable person (meaning 2) has learnability.

### C. Learnability.

1. Learnable.
  - a) Dictionary Definitions: Amazing to me, this is actually an accepted word in English. Dictionary.com identifies it as a noun, which is an obvious grammatical mistake; and provides no definition or examples. Webster Dictionary identifies it as an adjective based on the word “learn” but since it provides 7 meanings for “learn”, it is not clear to which one the adjective applies. Much more importantly, even though all 7 refer to the process of learning, the general use of “learnable” refers to the object being learned, not to the person. Oxford Dictionary also identifies it as an adjective but gives no definition. However, it provides examples, which all refer to the characteristic of that which is being learned. e.g.1 Leadership is a **learnable (meaning 1)** and teachable set of behaviors. e.g.2 Design applications which are learnable.
  - b) General Usage definition: The acceptable meaning 1 above is not what I want for it focuses on the object of teachability (i.e. that which is to be taught and learned).

- c) I want to focus on the person, one who is both teachable and learnable (i.e. who can both be taught and is willing to learn).
- d) ABC Definition : **Learnable (meaning 2)** is willing to learn by instruction  
Example 1: a learnable person accepts corrections.  
Example 2: a teachable person learns what they like or that which is interesting.

## 2. Learnability.

- a) ABC Definition – willingness to learn by instruction.  
A person may be teachable (i.e, has the ability to be taught) but is not learnable (i.e, has no willingness to learn that particular subject matter).  
Typically, people are reluctant to learn what is unpleasant or offensive or requires them to think outside the box or requires them to change or confront their self-image.
- b) The skill sets are different for teachability and learning.  
Teachability is a function of interest, IQ and previous training. Smart and experienced people quite often get bored and loose interest especially after the first pass through. Learnability is a function of decision, commitment and effort. When interest fails and the going gets tough, the learnable person buckles down and works harder.

## D. Obstacles to Learnability.

### 1. Scriptural Foundations.

Ps 14:1 The fool has said in his heart, there is no God.  
This statement makes it clear that the word “fool” cannot be applied to believers.  
Nevertheless, there is value at looking at the mistakes of a fool. (also Ps 53:1)  
A fool is unlearnable but is teachable. Many fools are very intelligent and very educated.

- a) Foolish behavior which can be hard to recognize.  
Pro 10:8 The wise in heart will receive commandments: but a prating fool shall fall.  
Pro 12:15 The way of a fool [is] right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel [is] wise. *Note: prating means talking long and idly.*  
Pro 15:5 A fool despises his father's instruction: he that regards reproof is prudent.  
Pro 17:10 A reproof enters more into a wise man than an hundred stripes into a fool.  
Pro 18:6 A fool's lips enter into contention.  
Pro 20:3 An honour for a man to cease from strife: but every fool will be meddling.  
Pro 26:12 See a man wise in his own conceit? [there is] more hope of a fool.  
Pro 28:26 He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool:  
Pro 29:20 See thou a man [that is] hasty in his words? [there is] more hope for a fool
- b) The learnability of a child.  
Mat 18:2 And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them,  
Mat 18:3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.  
Mat 18:4 Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

### 2. Demonic Attacks.

- a) Recognizing your hidden sins and secret faults.  
Psa 19:12 Who can understand [his] errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults].  
Luk 6:41 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but perceivest not the beam that is in thine own eye?
- b) Steps of demonic resistance during counseling:
  - denial
  - non-stop talking
  - attacking the counselor
  - rage or crying
  - withdrawal or termination of counseling or relationships.