

- A child can begin to recognize that the person who has offended him has \_\_\_\_\_ of his own.
- We can make a commitment to \_\_\_\_\_ for someone who has offended us.

**Conclusion:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



His Design // Lesson One: Closed Spirit // April 7, 2013

**PROVERBS 15:13**

*<sup>13</sup> A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.*

**PROVERBS 17:22**

*<sup>22</sup> A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.*

**PROVERBS 25:28**

*<sup>28</sup> He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.*

**Introduction:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**DEFINITIONS:**

Spirit—A person's innermost being, similar to one's conscience. It's the area in which people can have fellowship with one another and enjoy each other's presence without a word being spoken.

Soul—Would include our mind, will, and emotions.

Body—Is, of course, our physical makeup.



**MANIFESTATIONS OF A CLOSED SPIRIT:**

- Arguing
- Refuse to do what he is told
- Refusing to like anything you like
- Withdrawn
- Not very responsive to affection

**IF IT GETS WORSE AND HIS SPIRIT CLOSES FURTHER:**

- Seek friends that you do not approve of
- Swearing
- Disrespectful language
- Drugs & Alcohol
- Sexual permissiveness

**1 Become \_\_\_\_\_**

**PROVERBS 15:1**

<sup>1</sup>*A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.*

- A. He is \_\_\_\_\_ and important.
- B. We do not want to see his spirit \_\_\_\_\_, we care about him.
- C. We know there is something \_\_\_\_\_.
- D. We are open to \_\_\_\_\_.

**2 Increase \_\_\_\_\_**



Quote: —“Seek first to understand, then to be understood.”

**3 Recognize the \_\_\_\_\_**

**EPHESIANS 6:4**

<sup>4</sup>*And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.*

**4 Attempt to \_\_\_\_\_**

- A. He \_\_\_\_\_ to be touched.
- B. Touching allows us to \_\_\_\_\_ if the child’s spirit is not opening.

**5 Seek \_\_\_\_\_**

**REASONS WHY ONE MIGHT REFUSE TO FORGIVE:**

- Perhaps the offense was \_\_\_\_\_ than we realized.
- Maybe we \_\_\_\_\_ things and the child didn’t have time to think through what happened.
- Or perhaps the child might also want to see a real change in the parent’s \_\_\_\_\_ first.

**HOW CHILDREN OR ADULTS CAN REOPEN THEIR OWN SPIRITS:**

**MATTHEW 6:12, 14-15**

<sup>12</sup>*And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*

<sup>14</sup>*For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:*

<sup>15</sup>*But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.*



**DEFINITIONS:**

Forgive—The word forgive comes from a Greek word meaning “to release” or “set free.” It means to untie the chains that bind people.