# CHALLENGING CHARACTER TRAITS WORKSHEET

You are competitive and self-interested. As an independent person, you are not motivated by getting along with the group and are even willing to upset others to pursue your own goals. You are often independent in your thoughts, and you ask questions, especially to protect your self-interest and make sure you are right. You are disinterested in compromise and do not get satisfaction out of helping others. However, God doesn't make mistakes in how He hardwires people and often asks us to stand independently and persistently against the 'wisdom' of the world.

# **Key Characteristics**

- **Assertive and Competitive:** You tend to be more assertive and competitive in your interactions. Challenging individuals may be more willing to stand up for themselves and pursue their own goals, even if it means conflicting with others' interests.
- **Bluntness and Straightforwardness:** Challenging people are more likely to express their thoughts and opinions directly, without sugar-coating or being overly concerned about how their words might be received.
- Less Concerned with Others' Feelings: You may be less attuned to the emotional needs of others and may not prioritize maintaining harmony in social situations.
- **Tough-Minded:** You are often more emotionally resilient and less affected by criticism or negative feedback than some others.
- **Independence:** Challenging individuals tend to be more self-reliant and may prefer making decisions based on their own judgment rather than seeking consensus or approval.
- Less Likely to Conform: You may be less inclined to conform to societal norms or social expectations if they conflict with your own values or desires.

# Jesus' Teachings

It's important to note that interpretations of religious teachings can vary among individuals and denominations, but here are some ways in which the above characteristics may relate to Jesus' teachings.

- Assertiveness and Standing Up for Truth: Jesus displayed assertiveness in His teachings, challenging religious authorities and societal norms when they conflicted with higher moral values. For example, He overturned the tables of the moneychangers in the temple, expressing His disapproval of their practices.
- Honesty and Straightforwardness: Jesus was known for His candidness and direct communication. He often spoke plainly and openly, using parables and stories to convey important lessons.
- Independence and Devotion to God: Jesus' teachings emphasized the importance of an individual's relationship with God and the pursuit of truth and righteousness. He often challenged conventional thinking, urging people to focus on their spiritual connection rather than just following societal norms.
- **Disagreements and Conflict:** Jesus did not shy away from conflict, especially when it involved addressing injustice or hypocrisy. However, He also taught the value of forgiveness and reconciliation.

# **Character Journaling Prompts & Notes**

#### Confidence in Spiritual Independence:

• What spiritual activities or practices do you feel most confident engaging in independently, and how does this independence strengthen your spiritual journey?

#### Maintaining Spiritual Autonomy in Relationships:

• How do you maintain your spiritual autonomy and individuality within your close spiritual relationships or communities?

### Advocating for Spiritual Needs and Beliefs:

• How do you advocate for your own spiritual needs and beliefs within your spiritual community or group settings?

### Providing Constructive Spiritual Feedback:

 How do you provide constructive feedback or insights to others in spiritual discussions or group settings?

## Receiving Challenging Spiritual Feedback:

•	How do you handle receiving spiritual feedback or viewpoints that challenge your own beliefs or perspectives?