



SEMESTER 4 - WEEK 7

RECEIVING CORRECTION-WALKING IN HUMILITY AND HOLINESS [D1 - THE HEART]

AIDS TO LISTENING WELL

1. ASSUME THE BEST IN OTHER'S INTENTIONS [I Corinthians 13:7]
2. REMEMBER GOD'S PRESENCE AND PURPOSE [Romans 8:28; James 1:2-4; Psalm 139:7-12; Proverbs 15:3]
3. HAVE SOUND JUDGMENT ABOUT YOURSELF [Romans 12:3]
4. LONG FOR WISDOM [Proverbs 1:5, 9:9]

"The man who cannot endure to be reproved cannot be saved."

— Charles Spurgeon

You do not receive instruction so that one day you no longer need instruction.

The wise person understands:

- They will always need counsel
- They will always need correction
- They can learn from anyone

5. LISTEN ACTIVELY AND INTENTIONALLY [Proverbs 18:13]

- Helpful practices:
 - Ask clarifying questions
 - Slow the conversation down
 - Repeat back what you are hearing
- Useful Questions:
 - Can you help me understand specifically what your concern is?
 - Is this a preference, or do you believe I have sinned and violated Scripture?
 - What would you like to see differently in me?
 - Is there a biblical principle or command informing your concerns?
 - Are you saying?/Are you suggesting?
 - Often times the issue is not the issue. Patient listening often reveals deeper concerns.

6. HUMBLY EVALUATE CRITICISM WITH SCRIPTURE

- Humility does not mean:
 - Accepting every criticism as true
 - Being controlled by other's opinions
 - Assuming every accusation is valid
- Humility does mean:
 - Carefully weighing criticism before God and His Word
- Ask:
 - Is this biblically true?
 - Is there partial truth to what is being said?
 - Does this reveal a pattern others may also see?
 - Is my defensiveness preventing honesty?



- Even inaccurate criticism can reveal:
 - Pride
 - Fear of man
 - Reputation management
 - Harshness
 - Lack of approachability

AIDS TO BEING APPROACHABLE

1. RECOGNIZE IT WAS LIKELY DIFFICULT TO COME TO YOU

The person approaching you may have:

- Delayed the conversation
- Prayed over it
- Feared your response

2. THANK THE PERSON [Proverbs 17:10; 27:6]

3. ASK FOR TIME TO THINK AND PRAY

You do not need to resolve everything immediately.

Reasons to pause:

- You may be emotionally reactive
- You may be tempted to defend yourself
- You may need counsel
- You may need prayerful reflection

4. REMEMBER CRITICISM IS A MEANS, NOT AN INTERRUPTION

- Correction is not an obstacle to God's work in your life.
- It is often the very means by which He is accomplishing it.



5. CONSIDER THEIR HURT AND PERSPECTIVE

The person coming to you may:

- Be hurting from past experiences
- Be struggling to articulate concerns
- Need shepherding themselves

This does not excuse sinful communication, but it should cultivate compassion.

6. PRACTICE APPROPRIATE NON-VERBALS

Avoid:

- Eye rolling
- Sighing
- Folding arms
- Interrupting
- Distracted posture

Pursue:

- Eye contact
- Calm demeanor
- Patient silence
- Attentive posture

7. REMOVE OBSTACLES TO BEING APPROACHED

Short or Dismissive Responses

Examples:

- “That’s ridiculous.”
- “You’re overreacting.”
- “That’s not what I meant.”



Quick Defensive Answers

Do not be someone who:

- Always has an immediate explanation
- Cannot sit under criticism
- Never seriously weighs concerns

8. BEING INACCESSIBLE

If you constantly project:

- Busyness
- Hurry
- Irritation
- Unavailability

People will stop approaching you.

9. UNWILLINGNESS TO RELEASE PREFERENCES

Teachability requires willingness to evaluate:

- Preferences
- Methods
- Habits
- Traditions

10. FEAR OF MAN / REPUTATION PROTECTION

Proverbs 29:25; Galatians 1:10

Many resist correction because:

- They care too much what others think
- Their identity is tied to appearing competent
- Their reputation matters more than holiness

The fear of man makes correction feel threatening.



II. GOSPEL HOPE IN CORRECTION

Because of Christ:

- Your identity is secure
- Your righteousness is not performance-based
- Your failures do not define you
- Correction need not crush you

The gospel frees us to admit:

“I may be wrong.”

“I need to grow.”

“Thank you for helping me see that.”

12. THE GOAL: HOLINESS THROUGH HUMILITY [Romans 12:1-2, 9-21]

Receiving correction well is not merely about conflict management.

It is about:

- Growing in humility
- Pursuing holiness
- Preserving unity
- Becoming more like Christ



MINISTRY PASSAGES

DISCIPLINE 1 [THE HEART]

Proverbs 15:31 — LISTEN TO REPROOF

*“He whose ear listens to the life-giving reproof
Will dwell among the wise.”*

Proverbs 18:13 — BE EAGER TO HEAR

*“He who gives an answer before he hears,
It is folly and shame to him.”*

Proverbs 27:6 — FAITHFUL ARE THE WOUNDS OF A FRIEND

*“Faithful are the wounds of a friend,
But deceitful are the kisses of an enemy.”*

Romans 12:3 — DON'T THINK MORE HIGHLY OF YOURSELF

“For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think...”

Proverbs 29:25 — DON'T FEAR MAN, TRUST GOD

*“The fear of man brings a snare,
But he who trusts in the Lord will be exalted.”*



