

# a higher LOVE

**Receives Constructive Criticism**

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March 21, 2010 - Pastor David Carothers

*"... clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony."*

Colossians 3:13-14 NLT

*"We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation."*

Romans 5:3-4 NLT

## DENIAL COSTS ME...

- **MAKING** \_\_\_\_\_

*"People who despise advice are asking for trouble; those who respect a command will succeed."*

Proverbs 13:13 NLT

- **PERSONAL** \_\_\_\_\_

*"If you listen to constructive criticism, you will be at home among the wise. If you reject discipline, you only harm yourself; but if you listen to correction, you grow in understanding. Fear of the Lord teaches wisdom; humility precedes honor."*

Proverbs 15:31-33 NLT

- **FUTURE** \_\_\_\_\_

*"Pride leads to conflict; those who take advice are wise."*

Proverbs 13:10 NLT

*"Better to be criticized by a wise person than to be praised by a fool."*

Ecclesiastes 7:5 NLT

- **MEANINGFUL** \_\_\_\_\_

*"Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy."*

Proverbs 27:6 NLT

*"I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."*

Luke 18:14 NLT

# HOW TO BENEFIT FROM CRITICISM...

- **ACCEPT MY** \_\_\_\_\_

*"Instead, let us test and examine our ways."* Lamentations 3:40a NLT

*"Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. . . .Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up in honor."*  
James 4:8,10 NLT

- **EMBRACE** \_\_\_\_\_

*"Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. But God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. And since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, He will certainly save us from God's condemnation."*

Romans 5:7-9 NLT

*"And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns."*

Philippians 1:6 NLT

- **SLOWLY** \_\_\_\_\_

*"Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires."*

James 1:19-20 NLT

- **Turn yourself** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Worry about** \_\_\_\_\_ **first.**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **before addressing theirs.**

*"We must not just please ourselves. We should help others do what is right and build them up in the Lord. For even Christ didn't live to please himself. As the Scriptures say, 'The insults of those who insult you, O God, have fallen on me.'"*

Romans 15:1-3 NLT

- **MAKE IT EASY FOR THEM** \_\_\_\_\_

*"Fire goes out without wood, and quarrels disappear when gossip stops."*

Proverbs 26:20 NLT

*"Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins."*

1 Peter 4:8 NLT