

# HANDLING CRITICISM

## 1. BE COMMITTED TO PERSONAL CHANGE. It's not about "them".

**Proverbs 15:31-33**, "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. "

## 2. REMAIN CALM – It's not all about you. Stop. Breathe. Pray.

**Proverbs 15:1** "A gentle answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger."

## 3. LISTEN CAREFULLY FOR GOD SPEAKING. He's guiding you.

**Proverbs 15:31-32** He who listens to a life-giving rebuke will be at home among the wise. 32 He who ignores discipline despises himself, but whoever heeds correction gains understanding.

## 4. ADMIT RESPONSIBILITY WHERE APPROPRIATE. Exercise good boundaries. Stay away from foolish arguments.

**Proverbs 26:4** advises that there is a time to walk away and avoid a wrong response that would only disgrace yourself: "Do not answer a fool according to his folly, lest you also be like him."

## 5. SOLICIT HELP FROM YOUR CRITIQUER IF POSSIBLE. Crazy? Do it.

Reprove a wise man, and he will love you. (**Proverbs 9:8**)

**Proverbs 11:14** reads, "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."

Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future. (**Proverbs 19:20**)



## OTHER PASSAGES TO CONSIDER:

**James 1:19-20** My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

Ask God for wisdom – **Psalms 25:8**: "Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way."

**2 Timothy 2:24-25** And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. 25 Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth.

**Matthew 5:44-45** But I tell you: **Love your enemies** and pray for those who persecute you, 45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

A rebuke goes deeper into a man of understanding  
than a hundred blows into a fool. (**Proverbs 17:10**)

**Psalms 139:23-24** Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. 24 See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you" (**Psalms 32:8**).

Reprove a man of understanding, and he will gain knowledge. (**Proverbs 19:25**)

Jesus "entrusted himself to him who judges justly" (**1 Peter 2:23**). For us, as sinners, that means we do not pass final judgment on ourselves.



Lighthouse Christian Church

[www.lighthousechurchdrummondland.com](http://www.lighthousechurchdrummondland.com)