



Those Critical People

Sunday, May 24, 2015

Dave Michel

Stepping Stones Community Church

Introduction:

- Examples of criticism in the Bible:
 - Aaron and Miriam criticized Moses (Numbers 12:1-8)
 - Paul criticized as a bad speaker (2 Corinthians 10:10)
 - Jesus criticized (Matthew 9:14; Mark 2:16; Luke 13:14)
- Never ignore the value of constructive criticism

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.

Proverbs 15:31-32 NLT

Dealing with Unjust Criticism

1. God, help me know _____

The men of Ephraim asked Gideon, "Why have you treated us like this?... In anger they challenged Gideon. But he answered them... After Gideon had said that, they didn't feel angry with him anymore.

Judges 8:1-3 NIRV

2. God, help me know _____

People insulted him, but he did not insult them back. He suffered, but he did not threaten anyone. No, he let God take care of him. God is the one who judges rightly.

1 Peter 2:23 ERV

3. God, help me _____

Some people make cutting remarks, but the words of the wise bring healing.

Proverbs 12:18 NLT

Next Steps:

- Commit to pray the 3 prayers, especially #__
- I ask God to help me overcome my insecurity and pride and let go of my critical nature
- I commit to speak words of encouragement to someone before I leave church today
- I will respond with love to "Those People" in my life that I see this weekend
- _____