

Deal With It Learning To Deal With Criticism Nehemiah 4:1-5

Criticism has been called the act that always changes us.

For most of us, the question is not will I be criticized, but how will I respond to the criticism that will come into my life.

How To Deal With Criticism Constructively

1. Realize That Even _____
People Get Criticized

“And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, “He is possessed by Beelzebul,” and “by the prince of demons he casts out the demons.”

(Mark 3:22)

2. Understand The Difference Between _____
_____ And _____
Criticism

“Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy.”

(Proverbs 27:5-6)

Ask:

- _____ was it given?
- _____ was it given?
- _____ was it given?
- _____ gave it?

3. Watch Your Own _____
Toward The Critic

(1 Peter 2:21-23)

4. Don't Take Yourself So _____

*"Pride goes before destruction, and a
haughty spirit before a fall."*

(Proverbs 16:18)

Our problem is that we tend to take
_____ way too seriously and
_____ not seriously enough.

5. Focus On What Is _____ And
Forget The _____

*"Whoever loves discipline loves
knowledge, but he who hates reproof is
stupid."* (Proverbs 12:1)

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

_____ of truth principle

6. Wait For _____ To Prove You Out

(Matthew 27:12-13)

"I do the very best I can, I mean to keep going. If the end brings me out all right, then what is said against me won't matter. If I am wrong, 10 angels swearing I was right won't make a difference."

Abraham Lincoln

7. Prayerfully Discern When It Is Time To
_____ The Criticism.

"a time to keep silence, and a time to speak," (Ecclesiastes 3:7)

(Matthew 9:10-13)

8. Focus On _____ And Keep On _____
(Nehemiah 4:1-5)

Focus on your _____ change
your _____

9. Decide who you are going to _____

(1 Corinthians 4:3-4)

"So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him."

(2 Corinthians 5:9)

When Criticized, We Will Either Become Better Or Bitter

Which Will You Choose?

Making It Personal:

- How do I typically respond to criticism?
- How can I more constructively deal with the criticism that I receive? What specific area/skill do I most need to grow in?
- Is there something that God may be teaching me through criticism? Is there a pattern to the feedback/criticism that I need to be aware of?
- How will I focus on God and keep on working in the face of criticism?
- Do I tend to have a critical spirit toward others? How can I become more constructive in sharing criticism?
- Who in my life can I share these truths with?