

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!"

Rebuke vs. Judgment?

- Proverbs 15:31. The ear that hears the rebukes of life will abide among the wise.
- Proverbs 27:5. Open rebuke is better than love carefully concealed.
- John 8: 7. He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first.



Bad Rebuke – Elisha

2 Kings 2:23 - Then he went up from there to Bethel; and as he was going up the road, some youths came from the city and mocked him, and said to him, "Go up, you baldhead! Go up, you baldhead!" So he turned around and looked at them, and pronounced a curse on them in the name of the Lord. And two female bears came out of the woods and mauled forty-two of the youths.

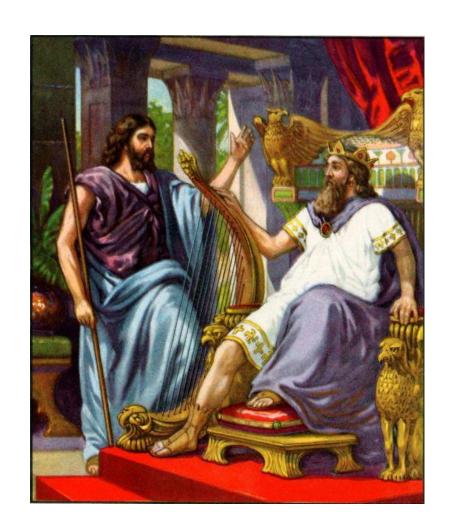
Characteristics of Bad Rebuke

- Just insults, no correction
- Not based on truth
- Not based on love but foolishness
- For the purpose of satisfying something in the insulter, not helping the other person



Good Rebuke – King David

- 2 Samuel 12:7. "You are the man!
- 2 Samuel 12:13. "I have sinned against the Lord."



Characteristics of Good Rebuke

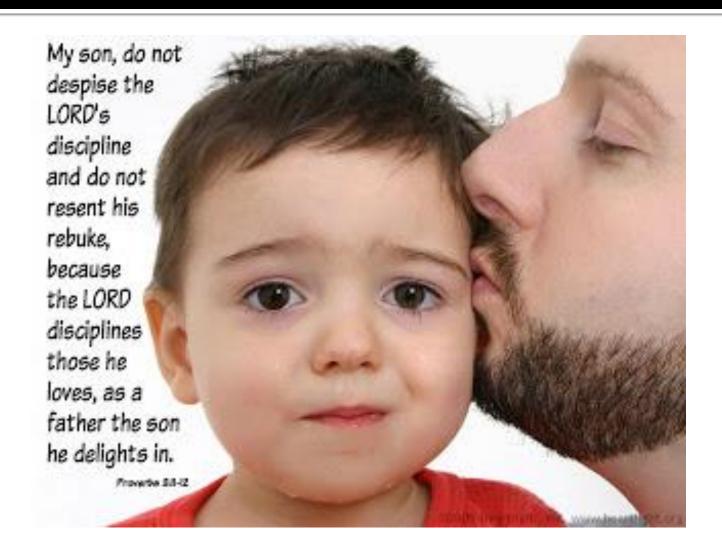
- Indirect
- For a good purpose
- Based on truth
- Intended to restore David, not destroy him
- Accepted with humility



Rebuke is a Love Language

- Jeremiah 10:24 O LORD, correct me, but with justice; Not in Your anger, lest You bring me to nothing.
- Luke 17:3 Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him.

Rebuke is a Love Language (2)



How to respond to rebuke

2 Samuel 16:10. So let him curse, because the Lord has said to him, 'Curse David.' Who then shall say, 'Why have you done so?""



How not to respond



Rebuke is a gift

Proverbs 1:23 -Turn at my rebuke; Surely I will pour out my spirit on you; I will make my words known to you.



St. Augustine

• Whoever you are that do not the commandments of God that are already known to you, and do not wish to be rebuked, you must be rebuked even for that very reason that you do not wish to be rebuked. For you do not wish that your faults should be pointed out to you...

St. Augustine

...you do not wish that they should be touched, and that such a useful pain should be caused you that you may seek the Physician; you do not desire to be shown to yourself, that, when you see yourself to be deformed, you may wish for the Reformer, and may supplicate Him that you may not continue in that repulsiveness.