RESPONSE TO REPROOF AND REBUKE

Memory verse: "Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee." (Proverbs 9:8).

Definition:

Reprove - to correct; to chasten; to convict; to argue or plead with Rebuke - often the same as reprove; to admonish or forbid A. "Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee."

Definition: Scorner - to make mouths at; scoff; mock

"...a scorner heareth not rebuke." (Proverbs 13:1b).

"A scorner seeketh wisdom, and findeth it not." (Proverbs 14:6).

"A scorner loveth not one that reproveth him: neither will he go unto the wise." (Proverbs 15:12).

"Cast out the scorner, and contention shall go out; yea strife and reproach shall cease."
(Proverbs 22:10).

"The scorner is an abomination to men." (Proverbs 24:9).

*****Prayerfully study Proverbs 1:20-33!!!****

B. "Rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee."

Jesus rebuked Peter, but Peter loved Him (See Mark 8:33 and John 21:15-17).

Jesus rebuked the two disciples on the way to Emmaus, but they constrained Him to abide with them (See Luke 24:25,29).

Ezra the priest rebuked the children of Israel, and they repented and loved him (See Ezra 10:10-17)

"Take heed to yourselves: if thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him." (Luke 17:3).

"And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but

rather reprove them." (Ephesians 5:11).

"Them that sin, rebuke before all, that others also may fear."
(I Timothy 5:20).

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine."

"These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee." (Titus 2:15).

****Please prayerfully study the following scriptures:

Psalm 141:5; Proverbs 15:5; 17:10; 25:12; 27:5; 29:15; Ecc. 7:5; Hebrews 12:5; Romans 15:14; I Cor. 4:14; Eph. 6:4; Col. 3:16; I Thess. 5:14; II Thess. 3:15; Titus 3:10.

HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO REPROOF AND REBUKE???

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A STUDY ON PRAYER

God's House will be called a house of prayer!

"And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves." (Matthew 21:13).

While this is true of the Church, it is also true of us **individually** if we are the place of God's habitation, His house, since the Scripture says:

"Know ye not that **ye are the temple of God**, and that **the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?**" (I Corinthians 3:16).

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" (I Cor. 6:19).

"In whom ye also are builded together for **an habitation of God** through the Spirit." (Ephesians 2:22).

Praying is an obligation, a privilege, and a commandment from God!

"I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;

For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty." (I Timothy 2:1,2).

"Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceas-

ing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way:"

(I Samuel 12:23).

"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;" (Ephesians 6:18).

"Pray without ceasing." (I Thessalonians 5:17).

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:16).

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." (II Chronicles 7:14).

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6,7).

"And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." (Acts 2:42).

WHAT IS PRAYER?

Prayer is communion with God: it may be making a request to God, expressing praise to God, adoring God for who He is and what He does, giving thanks to God, and/or confessing sins to God. Sometimes it may help to remember the acronym ACTS:

- A- Adoration
- C- Confession
- T- Thanksgiving
- S- Supplication

If all we ever do is go to God when we need help or want something (Supplication), we know very little about true prayer and are not really pleasing God in our prayer life.

It is very important to remember that a major part of our prayer life should be for others. When we concentrate our prayer requests for ourselves, we are being selfish and not loving our neighbors as ourselves.

What will motivate us to pray more?

- 1. Feeling our dependence upon God
- 2. Feeling a desire to praise and worship Him
- 3. Feeling condemned and guilty because of sin
- 4. Feeling gratitude to God for His abundant blessings in our lives, and knowing we are unworthy of those blessing.

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