

A Teachable Life

Proverbs 9:7-9

Introduction: We are in the midst of a series from the book of Proverbs about the fear of the Lord. When we fear God we have a passion for aligning our lives with God's life and His ways. Often we see the areas of our lives that don't align with God, but other times we don't. We have blind spots and don't see it. Scripture suggests that one of the tools available to help us fully align our lives is through living a teachable life by inviting others to correct us and tell us anything we need to hear. It's never easy to be corrected, but it is necessary especially in light of our blind spots. May this study encourage you to grow in living a more teachable life.

Opening Discussion: When was a time in your life when you found yourself very teachable?

Read Proverbs 9

1. Who are the two women talked about in this chapter? What do they represent?

Read Proverbs 9:7-9

2. What are the two reactions to correction that these verses present?
3. What can one expect from a scoffer? From a wise person?
4. Why does a wise person welcome reproof?

Steve said:

What I'm describing is a lifestyle of teachability. If you and I are in the habit of receiving correction from the Scriptures and from God, it is much more likely that we will also be able to receive correction from each other. If we are humbling ourselves before God, we will have the capacity to humble ourselves before others and "hear" what they have to say in our lives. The converse is also true: If we don't humble ourselves before God, there's little likelihood that we will be able to receive correction from others.

5. Are you in the "habit of receiving correction from the Scriptures and from God"?

6. Why do you think the habit of receiving correction from the Scriptures and from God helps us receive correction from others?

7. How well do you think you receive correction from others?

Steve said:

I'll close with two questions: First, is there anybody in your life to whom you have said, "If you see anything in my life that concerns you, you have the freedom to bring it up"? If you haven't – either explicitly or implicitly – I'd encourage you to think and pray about doing so.

Second, are you willing to take the risk involved in correcting others – first addressing issues in your life so that you see clearly enough to help others? This willingness is vital for the body of Christ to grow up as it should.

8. Is there anybody in your life whom you've invited to give you correction?

9. Are you willing to correct others? Why or why not?

10. Whether we are giving or receiving correction, what are some things that the one doing the correcting should keep in mind to make the correction easier to receive?

11. Is there any way that we need to take this issue to another level in our small group? In other words, how can we apply the things we've learned in the context of our small group life?