

March 11, 2018
Sermon Notes
2 Samuel 16:5-13

Should you expect unfair criticism? Consider these thoughts:

To avoid criticism, do nothing, say nothing, be nothing.

For every action, there is an equal and opposite criticism.

When unfairly criticized, follow David's example:

1. Go to God (immediately)
2. Look for truth
3. Relax

1 Peter 2:23 NLT

23 He did not retaliate when he was insulted, nor threaten revenge when he suffered. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly.

2 Timothy 2:24 NLT

24 A servant of the Lord must not quarrel but must be kind to everyone, be able to teach, and be patient with difficult people.

Psalms 31:15 ESV

15 My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!

How to find truth in criticism-remember:

1. Others have a different (better?) perspective than me
2. I am not perfect
3. I grow more by listening to negative rather than positive feedback

Proverbs 19:20 ESV

20 Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future.

Proverbs 27:5-6 NLT

5 An open rebuke is better than hidden love! 6 Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy.

Psalms 31:23-24 NLT

23 Love the Lord, all you godly ones! For the Lord protects those who are loyal to him, but he harshly punishes the arrogant. 24 So be strong and courageous, all you who put your hope in the Lord!

Lord, deliver me from the lust of vindicating myself.

Augustine

John 4:13-14 ESV

13 Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."