
Pleasant View church of Christ
2500 Highway 49 East
P.O. Box 189
Pleasant View, TN 37146

Sunday School: 9:30
A.M. Worship: 10:30
P.M. Worship: 6:00
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm
Phone: 924-9714

Psalm 32:1-2

“How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered! How blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit!”

“There are powerful emotions that bring two people together in wonderful harmony in marriage. Satan knows this, and would tempt you to try these emotions outside of marriage. Do not stir emotions meant to be used only in marriage.”

Richard G. Scott

The Company We Keep

King David committed grievous sins one night, and that one night—that one solitary evening—changed his life forever. He was in Jerusalem while Joab, his servants, and the rest of Israel were out besieging Rabbah. He rose from his bed at evening for unknown reasons. Maybe he couldn't sleep. Maybe he heard something and he went to investigate. Maybe he just wanted to see what Jerusalem looked like empty. Or maybe he knew that Bathsheba, a woman “very beautiful in appearance” (II Sam. 11:2), would be bathing on her roof at that time. Why he got out of his bed makes no difference. What he did after he got out of his bed makes all the difference.

David summoned the woman to his house, slept with her, and she became pregnant. In an effort to hide his sin, he summoned Bathsheba's husband, Uriah, from the battle so he could spend the night with his wife. But her husband refused. David then sent Uriah to the front of the war to be killed, and that's what happened.

I wonder if any of that would've ever happened if David had been surrounded by faithful friends and family that night. I wonder what would've happened if there were people there to distract him from staring at a naked woman. It's safe to say that David wouldn't have coveted and then committed adultery

and murder.

What if the other apostles were standing around that fire with Peter when he was asked if he was one that knew Jesus? What if Eve knew that God was aware of her conversation with the serpent? First Corinthians 15:33 states, “Bad company corrupts good character.” But we also see many examples of where no company has weakened the character of otherwise faithful people. Good company promotes good character.

James Hayes

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Criticism

September 9, 2012

Issue 77

In the same way I know that someone with zero dollars would rather have one hundred dollars, I know that all people would rather be encouraged than criticized. Granted, some people *deal with* criticism better than others, but that doesn't mean they would rather be criticized than encouraged. We typically divide criticism into two categories—constructive and destructive. Constructive criticism is rare but needed at times. Winston Churchill said, "Criticism be not be agreeable, but it is necessary. It fulfills the same function as pain in the human body. It calls attention to an unhealthy state of things."

Destructive criticism is common, hurtful, and debilitating if not addressed. Since we usually avoid our enemies, destructive criticism most often comes from those who say they love us. It can come from teachers, coaches, family, and friends.

Maybe the most frustrating part of destructive criticism is that the critics rarely offer solutions to the problems they observe. The Athenian painter Apollodorus had this inscription above a stack of his paintings: "Tis no hard thing to reprehend me; but let the men who blame me mend me." The critics also are the ones who are not as skilled as those they are

criticizing. Critics tend to take shots at those who are more popular, more attractive, and more successful. After Philip II of Macedon, the father of Alexander the Great, destroyed the city of Olynthus in 348 B.C., a resident of Olynthus said, "But he cannot build another such."

Tearing someone down is easy. It takes no talent, courage, or wisdom to pick apart someone's activities. It does, however, take talent, courage, and wisdom to teach, encourage, and patiently assist someone when they need it.

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Faye Waller is continuing to have tests in order to diagnose a digestive disorder. She has been sick on and off for two months.
- Dan Stockmeyer is having oral surgery Tuesday.
- Carsyn Thornton has been particularly ill lately.
- Nathan Goad, a baby the Roses know, has been seriously ill with elevated sugar levels.

Building Fund Contribution This Month, September 30 Thanks To All Those Who Participated In Bible Bowl

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: F. Brown

Pray: Reed

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Shelton

Serve: Demonbreum, Rose, Garrett

Pray: J.W. Head