



Sermon Outline
February 9, 2020

Sizing Up Our Criticizing

Ephesians 4:29

James 1:26 - Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.

A _____ on Criticism

Definition of criticism: The expression of disapproval of someone or something based on perceived faults or mistakes.

Criticism almost always has a _____ effect.

Proverbs 12:18a – The words of the reckless pierce like swords...

Constructive criticism is an _____.

Proverbs 15:4 – The soothing tongue is a tree of life, but a perverse tongue crushes the spirit.

A critic is another name for _____.

- We should try to tell people what they need to hear and not just what they want to hear. But sometimes what we want to say is not what people NEED to hear.

** It's never necessary to play the devil's advocate.*

A _____ of Criticism

***We judge others by their _____,
but ourselves by our _____.**

- *There are people who have bad intentions but not nearly as many as we think there are.*

- *Criticism says more about the one offering the criticism than about the one being criticized.*

**A critical spirit is often the sign of
a _____ self-image.**

Lowering your opinion of others isn't an effective way of raising your self-esteem.

A _____ for Criticism

Psalm 141:3 - Set a guard over my mouth, Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips.

**Make sure your _____ is in gear before
you put your _____ in motion.**

*** The cure for criticism involves a commitment
to speaking the _____ in _____.**

Speaking the truth in love requires:

1. **Self-examination of motive and _____.**
2. **Careful consideration of _____.**
3. **Addressing behavior without attacking
_____.**

Ephesians 4:29 - Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

It's wise to THINK before you speak.

Is it T _____?

Is it H _____?

Is it I _____?

Is it N _____?

Is it K _____?