

# MARINERS CHURCH



## Critical People June 15-16, 2019

### Never ignore the value of constructive criticism.

*If you listen to constructive criticism, you will be at home among the wise. If you reject discipline, you only harm yourself; but if you listen to correction, you grow in understanding. Proverbs 15:31-32 (NLT)*

#### Three Prayers...

### “God, help me know when to respond to criticism.”

*“What is this that you have done to us, not to call us when you went to fight against Midian?” And they accused him fiercely. And he said to them, “What have I done now in comparison with you? Then their anger against him subsided when he said this. Judges 8:1-3 (ESV)*

*A gentle answer turns away wrath. Proverbs 15:1 (NIV)*

### “God, help me to know when to dismiss invalid criticism.”

*When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. 1 Peter 2:23 (NIV)*



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### “God, help me overcome my own critical nature.”

*Some people make cutting remarks, but the words of the wise bring healing. Proverbs 12:18 (NLT)*

*Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. Ephesians 4:2-3 (NLT)*

#### Talk it Over! Questions for your LifeGroup or Accountability Partner

Share a time when you received constructive criticism. How did you respond to it?

What steps do you need to take to put God's opinion of you ahead of other people's opinion?

How have you been unjustly critical of others? What will you do to overcome your own critical nature?

Read and discuss Ephesians 4:1-6. What is the driving reason to live in unity?

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