

Dr.David Hutchison: Proverbs 19:20

Wise people seek counsel and listen to rebuke. Fools go it alone. Proverbs 19:20

- Seek counsel from other Godly people and have a heart to hear rebuke.
- Wisdom peaks as we get older, while the physical side peaks at around 20-30 years and declines thereafter.
- If we want our kids and grandkids to be wise people who seek counsel and listen to rebuke, we must model it.
- We must seek Godly counsel: surround yourself with Godly people. Live the Christian life as people who are part of a body. Do life together and talk about life. As we do this we will get some Godly counsel, and we will give some Godly counsel.

Nobody likes rebuke and nobody likes to give rebuke.

If I ask God for Wisdom, Scripture tells me that one of the ways He answers that prayer is through the rebuke of other people. A rebuke is a gift. Not every rebuke is correct, but we listen, review and test rebuke with counsel from others.

Seeking Counsel:

Why seek counsel?

- It's the wise thing to do: Pr 1:5, Pr 13:10
- Seek counsel because we always think we are right, but nobody bats 1000 (batting 1000 = perfection)
 - we need to seek to be 99% right with our daily decisions - seek counsel
- Seek counsel or you are like one who speaks before listening: Pr 18:13, Pr 29:20
- Seek counsel if you want to be successful - Pr 15:22 Live life together
- Seek counsel if you go to war - Pr 28:18, Pr 24:6
 - Bottom line - As our decisions impact a greater number of people or the consequences are greater, we must seek counsel
- Increase the chance of getting Godly counsel: Socialize with Godly people. Our best friendships should be Godly people (Pr 13:20)

Why listen to rebuke?

- If I ask God for Wisdom, I must listen to rebuke - Pr 15:31-32, Pr 19:25
- Pr 12:1 - he who hates reproof is stupid - Pr 15:5
- Naive (bad), fool (worse), scoffer (worst) - Pr 13:1 a scoffer does not listen to rebuke. Pr 10:17 - ignore reproof and we go astray.
- David said, "let the righteous people rebuke me. It's like pouring oil on my head." Ps 141:5

Why don't we accept counsel?

- Pride!
- Distrust of others

- We think others aren't qualified.
- Insecurity,
 - Fear of losing position or authority, if I seek Godly counsel.
- Sometimes we are rushed (don't be rushed into things).
- Remember the acronym "HALT." (Hungry Angry Lonely Tired - add to this "depressed or rushed.")
- Sometimes we actually know the right answer, but we just do not want to hear it.

Conclusion:

Listen to multiple Godly counselors to make wise decisions

Remember, the best shot at getting our kids and grandkids to be wise is to model it ourselves.