

PREPARATION FOR LEADERSHIP #3 “Correction”

Exodus 32:17-18

The Bible records that Joshua gets things wrong, and must be corrected by Moses. You cannot enter your destiny without being corrected. Correction is both a test and a means of growth. We must see correction correctly.

I. NEEDING CORRECTION

A. The Bible is an honest book: It records that Joshua was mistaken – he didn’t get it right

1. Exodus 32:17 *And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is a noise of war in the camp."*

2. Men think that being a good disciple is never making a mistake/needling correction

a. Some men try and avoid failure – they avoid risk so they won’t be corrected or seem to look foolish

1. *They will ask no questions* 2. *They limit involvement to ensure they don’t mess up*

3. No one gets it right all the time! *It wouldn’t be good for us - we would be unbearable/obnoxious*

a. Exodus 32:18 *But he said: "It is not the noise of the shout of victory, Nor the noise of the cry of defeat, But the sound of singing I hear."*

4. **We will make mistakes, we will need correction – and that is normal!**

a. *A normal part of life: Videos of Jonathan learning to walk – he falls! Heb 12:7 ... for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?*

b. In a normal/healthy home this is accepted as a normal part of life

1. *You mess up – you get up: You get corrected – learn the lesson & move on*

c. Discipleship is learning/getting good at things you don’t know/you’re not good at!

1. Mat 16:8-9 *Which when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread? Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up?*

II. DISTORTING CORRECTION

A. The problem is the distortions of hell: We carry the past with us into new situations and relationships

1. **Increasing % of our generation is fatherless: Divorce or abandonment**

a. *Young men are often raised by women: They learn to live by emotions/feelings*

2. **Some suffered abuse: Violent/psychotic/vindictive – no balance/no love with discipline**

3. **Some were raised in an atmosphere of rejection: Performance based they weren’t allowed to fail**

B. So many men interpret correction incorrectly

1. **Pastor doesn’t like me:** Either ...

a. *He corrected me because he doesn’t like me: He’s out to get me* b. *He used to like me – but now he doesn’t because I messed up*

2. **I have no future because I failed or I needed correction**

a. *Judas hung himself: There is no future after failure*

C. Correction is actually a gift from God

1. **Correction reveals things in us: Pride/rebellion, etc.**

a. *You never know what’s in a man until you tell him no* b. *I’ve seen men turn* c. *Can be good – I never knew/in there!*

2. **Correction teaches us: Mistakes are an opportunity to begin again, intelligently**

a. *The drum throne war: My actions affect the bigger picture/people care how you act – how you treat them*

III. DISTORTING CORRECTION

A. We have to have correct perspective in both failure and correction

1. **Pastors care for you:** They want you to survive – they want you to enter your destiny

a. *Prov 3:12 even as a father corrects the son in whom he delights.*

1. It would be damaging in the present 2. It would be cruel to you in the future

2. **Correction all about the future:** The lessons of correction are always bigger than today

a. *I wouldn’t bother if I didn’t care for your future: Your Pastor sees your future!*

1. It’s about people (not just programs or equipment)

a. *If you can’t follow directions/make dumb decisions now – what will happen when it affects someone’s life?*

2. It’s about the will of God: God’s will is more important than our feelings

3. It’s about what you will become – and the effect on your future

a. *Abigail warned David: This will hurt your credibility with people as a leader!*

B. There is absolutely no mention of Joshua’s reaction to Moses’ correction: So...

1. **Don’t pout!** Don’t let your emotions rule *I can’t disciple a man who pouts*

a. *Women & children are ruled by emotions: Men take their licks & get on with life*

b. *Don’t elevate your pride & allow it to dominate your life*

3. **Learn the lesson:** *What did you do that brought this on? How can you avoid that in the future?*

a. *If you only focus on the emotion or the pride – you will wind up in the same mess again!*

4. **Move on:** There is always work to be done – even after failure or correction

a. *Moses and Joshua get on with dealing with the problem: (Not soothing Joshua)*

1. *After correction - we had to get on with our chores: That was a life-lesson!*