

When I was door director I dropped the ball on scheduling an outreach Pastor Greg wanted done a specific way at a specific time (to be honest I actually thought I new better), the result was Pastor Greg corrected me and pointed out something that was a revelation for me he said **“Steven here is the problem with you not listing to my instructions, today its an outreach but when you are out on the field its going to be peoples lives.”** And I can tell you there were situations both in pioneering in Denver and pastoring in 29 palms that at critical moments I called Pastor and asked for his wisdom and this really did changed the course of peoples lives.

Critical element needed in every disciple is the ability to process correction the right way. Correction can happen in many different ways and at many different times - how you handle that will help build and accelerate Gods plan for your life.

Luke 9:51-56—51 Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem, **52** and sent messengers before His face. And as they went, they entered a village of the Samaritans, to prepare for Him. **53** But they did not receive Him, because His face was set for the journey to Jerusalem. **54** And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, “Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?” **55** But He turned and rebuked them, and said, “You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. **56** For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men’s lives but to save them.” And they went to another village.

I. Ministry Journey

A. New Experiences

1. Foundation of all discipleship rests on whether or not you are teachable
 - a) Disciple means learner / to be a learner means you are admitting you don’t know certain things
 - b) To learn something does you no good unless you are able to apply it in your own life
2. A disciple is taught certain things then released to apply them
 - a) Baked into the discipleship cake - you will step out and do things that will not work/ you will make mistakes/ their will be problems you did not expect

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- b) Our text - the job/ task was simple enough - Go into this town and find a place where Jesus and the rest of the disciples can sleep for the night / but it didn’t work out that way

Luke 9:53 But they did not receive Him, because His face was set for the journey to Jerusalem.

B. New Problems

1. Being a disciples means you try things that sometimes don’t work
 - a) Outreaches that flop, no one gets saved/ write bible studies that don’t connect or come off as confusing/ in ministry and working with other people in church you will let people down and even offend people
2. This is training ground for future ministry and usefulness
 - a) Where you are today is not the end of the story / men here you will be pastors some day- you will counsel marriages, comfort people who’ve lost loved ones, deal with psychos and rebels
3. We will all experience failure - We will need to be corrected
 - a) Essence of our text - Jesus is correcting his disciples

Matthew 15:16 “Are you still so dull?” Jesus asked them.

Matthew 16:23 But He turned and said to Peter, “Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.”

C. Common traps in discipleship - All centers around pride

1. **Fear of looking stupid**
 - a) Do what ever I can to avoid looking stupid/ avoid getting corrected
2. **Fear of Pastor correcting you**
 - a) Never asks questions, never invite criticism or feed back from my pastor
3. **The trap of assuming**

- a) The guy who assumes he has all the answers - been here before, seen this before

Luke 9:54 And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?"

- b) What is revealed is their heart attitudes - People are the problem / Jesus must view people the same way I do.

II. Being corrected

- A. When Pastor corrects you: Inevitable reality - you will be corrected by your pastor

Luke 9:55 But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of."

- 1. Correction Reveals what was Hidden

- a) The point of correction is to show you something you didn't see before

Proverbs 12:1—1 Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, But he who hates correction is stupid.

- b) shows us our **pride**, our **arrogance**, our **insecurities**, our own **rejection issues**.. etc

- 2. Correction is meant to cause disciples to analyze themselves

- a) Sometimes we are our biggest fans - think we are doing everything wonderfully

- b) Critical component to discipleship is you must be able to analyze your self - evaluate and grow

- 3. Correction is always future focused

- a) The point of all correction is to help you avoid the same problems down the road/ James and John were in ministry to help people - their answer to people problems was that they should die.

- B. Incorrect Response to Correction

- 1. Pastor hates me

- a) Place of insecurity and rejection - as a disciple you must deal with your rejection issues before you get sent out / Ministry magnifies

- b) The man who cannot take correction is the man who cannot move on in their discipleship**

- 2. We vent and spew pastors correction to our wives and other people around us

- a) There is a problem when you allow your emotions to be the first things people see and hear from you / what will happen is your wife's view of pastor will change in a negative way

- b) Failure and correction are part of discipleship - if you can't handle that / I predict pain in your future

- 3. We view all of life through the lens of our screw up and failure

- a) We interpret pastors correction as a value statement against us / *Self deprecating - I'm a worm pastor must hate me*

- b) "Pastor got on my case because I forgot to bring microphones to the outreach or put the wrong date on the flyer" I'm a worthless human being.

III. The blessing of Correction

- A. The blessing released in our lives when we respond to correction correctly

- 1. Pastors care about your development

- a) At the core of correction - Your pastor wants you to enter your destiny

- b) Pastor wants your ministry to be built, wants you to be fruitful and successful

Luke 9:56 For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save them." And they went to another village.

- 2. Respond to correction in gratitude

- a) The fact that pastor wants the best for you and wants you to avoid pain that's a blessing

- b) Looking at my calling and ministry opportunities I've had - it was correction from pastor that has built a frame work I have built my ministry on.

- 3. Move on and don't pout

- a) Seen men get corrected and their response is to sulk, pout- threaten to quit the ministry

- b) PG said - Women and children are ruled by emotions - Men take their licks and get on with life

- 4. Learn the Lesson of Correction

- a) This is basic - If pastor corrects you then that means there is something in your life that needs attention - to ignore it would be foolish / fix the problem - if its pride then humble your self- if its laziness - work harder at it / if its a preaching technique then record yourself and practice

- b) Our text - says they went to another village - they moved on / James and John had the opportunity to fix their hearts, move forward