

2.) CRITICISM GONE BAD

The “Zip It!” Series

If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. (James 1:26)

- People who constantly CRITICIZE others often do not realize the DAMAGE they are doing.

I. THREE ROOT CAUSES OF DESTRUCTIVE CRITICISM

A. JEALOUSY

A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones. (Proverbs 14:30)

Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. (Romans 12:15)

- Am I TRULY HAPPY for the GOOD THINGS others experience?

B. NEGATIVITY

The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks. (Luke 6:45)

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable-if anything is excellent or praiseworthy-think about such things. (Philippians 4:8)

- Are you a DISCOURAGEMENT LEADER or a CHEERLEADER?

...(we) sent Timothy to get you up and about, cheering you on so you wouldn't be discouraged by these hard times. 1 Thessalonians 3:2-3 (The Message)

- Who are you going to CHEER ON tomorrow?
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C. SARCASM (the class clown)

- The CUT DOWN is perhaps one of the most DECEIVING of all types of destructive criticism.

Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. (Ephesians 5:4)

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. (Ephesians 4:29)

- Our MISSION is too IMPORTANT and our WORDS are too POWERFUL to speak carelessly and risk WOUNDING PEOPLE.