

Wednesday Word

Ecclesiastes 7:5-6 “It is better for a man to hear the rebuke of the wise than the song of fools. For as the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fools; this is also a vanity.”

I love being told I have done a good job. To be honest it just warms my heart to have the affirmation that my efforts accomplished what I intended them to do. I have smaller children at home, and they are quite easily impressed- More so anyway than my teenagers.

I can do pretty much anything, and the littles will think it is amazing. I can juggle with one ball or make one basketball shot and my little kids will try to do exactly what I just did.

Let's all be honest: It feels nice to be admired.

I was mentored by a pastor named Brad Grasley for 12 years. He taught me so much about the inner workings of the church, how to navigate practical situations in the church, how to resolve conflicts and communicate a spiritual vision and everything in between. It was a great season in my life. The problem was he also felt the need to confront character flaws in my life and weaknesses in my leadership to attempt to strengthen my ministry. How dare he!

Let's again be honest: It feels less than nice to be corrected.

I have learned over the years that the most valuable conversations and situations in my life are the ones where my intentions and methods were called into question. As much as I hated to look at my faults, if I didn't face my faults how would I overcome them? How would I look more like Christ in my behaviors and agenda if I refuse to make adjustments that maybe others see the need for, but I do not.

I love my young kids, but I cannot go to them for honest feedback into my inner life and spiritual journey. I need pastors like Brad who loved me enough to challenge me toward repentance and Godly development.

What voices in your life are a “wise mans rebuke” and what voices in your life are the “song of fools?”

Let's both be the voice of the wise and listen to the voice of the wise. There is a culture that needs authentic real followers of Jesus.

Let's consider these thoughts this week!

I love you and God loves you!

Pastor Eric Lundberg

