

## **February 18, 2024 - Influence: The Influence of a Christ-like Rebuke**

Feel free to **PICK AND CHOOSE** some of the questions below to engage with as a group. Before you leave, be sure to spend some time going over the **Top 3** things your group members need to know.

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### **Connect:**

In this message, we considered a few common ways we can relate to one another.

We can manipulate and control one another.

We can ignore and avoid one another.

We can edify and inspire one another.

How does each way lead to influence?

### **Engage:**

Read **Proverbs 15:31**: “**One who listens to life-giving rebukes will be at home among the wise.**”

“Rebuke seems so negative because we’ve seen it be negative.” Why is this true? Why does this word conjure up bad thoughts? Is the truth something you can’t handle?

What’s the difference between a rebuke and a “life-giving” rebuke?

How have you experienced either?

Which do you think makes receiving a life-giving rebuke or “constructive correction” the most difficult: self-justification or shame?

Robert said, “Correction is best given and received when it is done with ATTACHMENT. (We are not yelling and walking away, we are here to stay.)” Discuss the implications of this.

Read **Romans 8:1** and **Romans 8:33-34**: What does the gospel free us from? What role do we play in this with one another?

### **Apply:**

Rebuke is life-giving if we give it....

Promptly (**Ephesians 4:27**)

Privately (**Matthew 18:15**)

Patiently (**Proverbs 27:6**)

Pleasantly (**Galatians 6:1**)

How can we implement these truths this week?

How can we grow in our faith so that we’re able to receive corrections in a positive way?

How can we remind one another of who we truly are in a Christ-like way? (Colossians 3:12)

### **Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, we thank You for your GREAT love! We know that You discipline those that You love. We know we need Your corrections and that You speak to us through your Word and other believers that you have placed in our path. We are thankful for those that you have placed in our lives that have a “watchful love” over us. May our hearts be pliable and open to your life-giving correction in our lives. Forgive us for ignoring or rejecting Your discipline in our lives. Let us hear your voice. Let us respond to your call and your truth. Let us seek to demonstrate our love for You in our obedience and in loving and serving one another as we seek to love and serve YOU!

### **Top 3:**

#### **Membership Class | Wednesday, February 21 at 6pm**

Membership is a way for our church leadership and church members to make promises to one another as we seek God's best for Fondren Church together. The first step in becoming a member is to attend a membership class. In the class, you'll learn more about the history of our church, our leadership structures, and the ways we promise to care for you as a church member. To learn more and register, visit [fondrenchurch.com/events](http://fondrenchurch.com/events).

#### **Serve Day | Saturday, February 24**

Serve Day is a day when people from Fondren Church serve alongside ministries all over the Jackson-Metro. We have ways for people of all ages and abilities to make a difference together. Registration opens soon. For more information and to register, visit [fondrenchurch.com/events](http://fondrenchurch.com/events).

#### **Marriage Workshops (Includes dinner and childcare for adults and children)**

##### **How to Childproof Your Marriage | Wednesday, February 28 at 5:30 pm**

##### **Date Night | Sunday, March 3 at 5:30 pm**

##### **No Kids, No Problems? | Sunday, March 3 at 5:30pm**

In "How to Child Proof Your Marriage", Laura McAlpin and Raymond Kennedy, a Fondren Church member and professional counselor, will lead us through a night to strengthen marriages in every stage of parenting. Couples will receive encouragement, practical tips, and helpful resources to grow the strength of their marriage even in the midst of demanding seasons. Whether you're expecting your first child, in the "middle miles" and actively parenting kids and teens, or are navigating an empty nest, this will be a valuable investment of time in your marriage.

In "No Kids, No Problems?" Laura McAlpin will lead us through a night to build and strengthen marriages in the early years. Specifically designed for engaged, nearly married, newly married, and couples without the stressors that children add to the marital relationship, couples will receive encouragement, practical tips, and helpful resources to grow the strength of their marriage, and build healthy habits and strong foundations in their relationship.

Register for either Workshop at [fondrenchurch.com/events](http://fondrenchurch.com/events).