Proverbs 27:5-7 (NLT)
An open rebuke is better than hidden love! 6Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy. 7A person who is full refuses honey, but even bitter food tastes sweet to the hungry.

Mark 15:3-5
The chief priests began to accuse Him harshly. 4Then Pilate questioned Him again, saying, “Do You not answer? See how many charges they bring against You!” 5But Jesus made no further answer; so Pilate was amazed.

I Corinthians 4:5 (NLT)
Do not pronounce judgement before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

Psalm 139:1-4
O LORD, You have searched me and known me. 2You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my thought from afar. 3You scrutinize my path and my lying down, and are intimately acquainted with all my ways. 4Even before there is a word on my tongue, behold, O LORD, You know it all.

Psalm 139: 23-24
Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my anxious thoughts; 24and see if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way.

Notes:
CRITICISM AND THE CHRISTIAN

Proverbs 9

I. Critical D________________: some despise criticism, others v____________ it

II. Contrasting d________________
* Some want to ____________ righteous/good
  Some want to ____________ righteous/good

III. The Key to handling criticism: a p_______________
    r_______________ with God, by which you discover who you are
* Without this we fall victim to the messages of o_________

IV. Ten Ways to respond to criticism
  1. L______________ carefully
  2. Accept the p__________ as part of God’s d____________
  3. V____________ the criticism as an aid to righteousness
  4. Evaluate the a_______________ of the criticism
  5. Give t____________ and a g_____________ reply
  6. Do not criticize your critics
  7. When appropriate, d__________ yourself h____________
  8. Look for the c______________ picture
  9. Rest in the j________________________ of God
 10. R________________ your soul in the Lord
Proverbs 9:7-9
He who corrects a scoffer gets dishonor for himself, and he who reproves a wicked man gets insults for himself. 8 Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you, reprove a wise man and he will love you. 9 Give instruction to a wise man and he will be still wiser, teach a righteous man and he will increase his learning.

Proverbs 12:1
Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid.

Proverbs 13:1
A wise son accepts his father’s discipline, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.

Proverbs 15:5
A fool rejects his father’s discipline, but he who regards reproof is sensible.

Proverbs 15:10
Grievous punishment is for him who forsakes the way; he who hates reproof will die.

Proverbs 6:23
The commandment is a lamp and the teaching is light; and reproofs for discipline are the way of life.

Proverbs 13:18
Poverty and shame will come to him who neglects discipline, but he who regards reproof will be honored.

Proverbs 13:31
He whose ear listens to the life-giving reproof will dwell among the wise.

Proverbs 9:8
Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you, reprove a wise man and he will love you.
Psalm 141:5
Let the righteous smite me in kindness and reprove me; it is oil upon the head; do not let my head refuse it.

I Corinthians 4:1-5
Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. 2 In this case, moreover, it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy. 3 But to me it is a very small thing that I may be examined by you, or by any human court; in fact, I do not even examine myself. 4 For I am conscious of nothing against myself, yet I am not by this acquitted; but the one who examines me is the Lord. 5 Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men’s hearts; and then each man’s praise will come to him from God.

I Thessalonians 2:4
But just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who examines our hearts.

II Samuel 16:5-13 (NLT)
As King David came to Bahurim, a man came out of the village cursing them. It was Shimei son of Gera, from the same clan as Saul’s family. 6 He threw stones at the king and the king’s officers and all the mighty warriors who surrounded him. 7 “Get out of here, you murderer, you scoundrel!” he shouted at David. 8 “The Lord is paying you back for all the bloodshed in Saul’s clan. You stole his throne, and now the Lord has given it to your son Absalom. At last you will taste some of your own medicine, for you are a murderer!” 9 “Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king?” Abishai son of Zeruiah demanded. “Let me go over and cut off his head!” 10 “No!” the king said. “Who asked your opinion, you sons of Zeruiah! If the Lord has told him to curse me, who are you to stop him?” 11 Then David said to Abishai and to all his servants, “My own son is trying to kill me. Doesn’t this relative of Saul have even more reason to do so? Leave him alone and let him curse, for the Lord has told him to do it. 12 And perhaps the Lord will see that I am being wronged and will bless me because of these curses today.” 13 So David and his men continued down the road, and Shimei kept pace with them on a nearby hillside, cursing and throwing stones and dirt at David.