

Connect Discussion Guide 1/10/21 Message | Chuck Sackett | Jude 5-13

An urgent warning calls for an urgent response.

Key Scriptures:

Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day—just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.

Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams, defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones. But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you." But these people blaspheme all that they do not understand, and they are destroyed by all that they, like unreasoning animals, understand instinctively. Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam's error and perished in Korah's rebellion. These are hidden reefs at your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, shepherds feeding themselves; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted; wild waves of the sea, casting up the foam of their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved forever.

- Jude 5-13

Let a righteous man strike me—it is a kindness; let him rebuke me—it is oil for my head; let my head not refuse it. Yet my prayer is continually against their evil deeds.

- Psalm 141:5

Whoever ignores instruction despises himself, but he who listens to reproof gains intelligence.

- Proverbs 15:32

Message Highlights:

- Receiving a rebuke can definitely sting—the key is how we respond.
- Our response to urgent rebukes must be urgent!
- We need to be humble and recognize when we need rebuke and when we need to repent.
- · When we are rightly rebuked, we must embrace the rebuke.
- We are to contend for the faith by taking our faith seriously. We must profess truth and life by speaking the truth in love.
- As we embrace rebuke, we must also embrace God's grace for others and for ourselves.



Conversation Starter:

• Think of a time when you received a rebuke that led to a breakthrough in your spiritual, personal or professional life. Exchange these stories with your group!

Discuss the Message:

- 1. What is your gut reaction to the concept of rebuke? How did today's sermon change your view of rebuke?
- 2. Read through the letter of Jude and make note of the strong language he uses surrounding this urgent warning of rebuke. What language or verses specifically help you craft a healthier view of rebuke?
- 3. Proverbs 15:32 tells us, "Whoever ignores instruction despises himself but he who listens to reproof gains intelligence." How do you receive rebuke, and how can you change your posture to receive it as a gift?
- 4. Chuck explained that warning signals are designed to save our lives; what can you surrender to God today as a means of opening your heart to listen to rebuke?
- 5. Jude 3 appeals for followers of Jesus to "contend for the faith..." What does it practically look like for you to contend, or wage a battle, for our faith this week?

Pray:

Heavenly Father, we recognize our tendency to shirk off the warnings you give us. Our foolish pride makes it difficult to accept rebuke when we are wrong. Please forgive us for our pride and help us by your Spirit to receive godly rebuke from others when we need it. Help us to walk in humility as we contend for truth in a way that demonstrates love and grace. We thank you for the grace and forgiveness that we experience through your Son, Jesus. We desire to be a church were he is elevated above all other authority. Help us to embrace his authority over our lives more and more every day. Amen.

