**FOCUS Bible Study - February 15**

[**VIEW RECORDING - 88 mins (No highlights)**](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5)

[@10:06](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=606.08" \t "_blank) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Oh, my, that's funny. Well, I also want to point out, uh, and thank everyone who's been supporting Focus Bible Study for your financial donations.

That means a lot, especially since, uh, meetup just raised their prices at the beginning of the year. So it's helpful to have that offset with your support.

So thank you, everyone. Appreciate that much. I think it's $200 now.

[@10:36](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=636.66) - **Michael**

Oh, okay. So you have to pay that every year?

[@10:39](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=639.34) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, annually. Right.

[@10:40](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=640.8) - **Michael**

All right.

[@10:42](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=642.06) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yep. And then I pay, I pay for the zoom, uh, feature two, which I think is about $140 or something.

[@10:47](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=647.88) - **Carmen**

Okay.

[@10:48](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=648.54) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

few dollars. So, so it's relatively small in comparison, you know, so, but I do appreciate the support that he offered.

[@10:57](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=657.3) - **Carmen**

All right. All right.

[@10:59](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=659.74) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

All right. Hi. Think, think Carmen's coming back to us. So I think we'll go ahead and get started. Hi, Carmen.

All right, we're going go ahead and we welcome everybody. And when you're not speaking, if you don't mind muting, we do appreciate that just so everyone can have the chance to hear and be distracted.

So when you're not speaking, please put it on me. I thank you for that. Lord, we thank you for today.

We thank you for our friends who were able to join us. God, we just ask that you would speak to us.

We came not just for each other, but for you. We came to hear from you. God, we want you to leave your friends all over us today.

handle our hearts with the way that you know that they need to be handled. Say the words that you know we need to hear.

Impress upon us, God, it is you want us to learn. We ask for holy angels to be in everyone's room.

We ask for the anointing to flow through this technology and through everyone right now to break off every yoke and to help us be the people you want us to be.

We thank you. for your anointing. We thank you for your word. We thank you for your Holy Spirit in Jesus' name.

Amen. All right. Well, today I've got a topic that I'd like to entitle corrupt communication. Corrupt communication. We're going to start off in Ephesians chapter 4, and we're going to read verse 29.

What we'd like to do here is we take turns reading. If you're comfortable reading, I'm going call on you.

I'll just kind of start in my screen and go around. You just go ahead and read, and if you're not comfortable, that's okay.

I just say pass, and I won't call on you going forward. We want you to feel comfortable with your level of participation, okay?

So with that Ephesians, oh, do I need to start recording? You're kind of breaking up there, Leanne.

[@12:46](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=766.62) - **Lee Anne P.**

Oh, can you?

[@12:48](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=768.38) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

thank you for the reminder. will put those scriptures out in the chat, so you can see all the scripture verses that we're going to go through today.

So give me a thumbs up if you see them in the chat just to make sure that worked correctly.

Thank you. Okay. So we're going to Ephesians chapter 4, and we're going start with verse 29, and might be mind kicking us off this morning with Ephesians 4 verse 29.

[@13:13](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=793.8) - **Michael**

Sure.

[@13:15](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=795.2) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Let no one hold some word for seed from your mouth, but only such a word is good for edification according to the You're said, unwholesome words, Is that what I said?

Unwholesome. And the King James, the reason I title this lesson, corrupt communication, uses the words corrupt communication. They're unwholesome, corrupt communication.

But what I want to point out is, you know, we'll dig into the words here and there. the Greek word for corrupt also means bad, worthless, rotten, putrified, or as Mike's version.

in there put it on wholesome. Communication, the word communication there in the Greek is logos and we know that word means words, sayings or speech.

And to proceed means to go forth. So we don't want anything bad, unworthy, rotten, pew-fried, on what was it, Mike again, on wholesome, coming out of our mouths in the words we say and the things that we're giving lip service to.

But we want instead something that is good and that word good means of benefit, pleasant, joyful, or upright. And those good words, those words should benefit people.

should sound pleasant, should be joyful, should be able to rejoice in them, should be able to say that those are excellent words because then those type of words will edify and that word edify means build up, like kind of building a building, right?

One stone at a time. that we would call finish structure and edifice because it was built one brick at a time.

It edifies and that it may minister and that word minister means to give or to grant or to deliver and supply.

What is it supposed to give or grant or deliver and supply? It's scripture said grace and that grace. What does that word grace mean?

Anybody can know the definition of that word grace?

[@15:27](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=927.66) - **Michael**

Unmarited favor?

[@15:29](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=929.38) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Unmarited favor. What does unmarited mean?

[@15:32](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=932.08) - **Michael**

Anybody? You don't deserve to be shown goodness. Like God shows us when we say this.

[@15:39](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=939.62) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yep. In fact, we deserve the opposite, right? deserve the punishment. We deserve the wrath, but even though we deserve that, God shows us grace, something that was totally unearned, undeserved, and grace is like favor, right?

It's also defined as delight, goodwill, loving kindness that which affords joy or pleasure and so now with with full understanding of all those words when you think about what is this scripture saying it's saying essentially let nothing bad worthless rotten come out of your mouth but instead you want to benefit others with what you say you want to build them up encourage them and help them understand that God gives grace unmerited favor and kindness to those that you're speaking to that's essentially really what this scripture is saying um have you ever had a case where your emotions are running high you've been in a heated discussion and you really want to say something how do you feel at that moment like describe describe what's going on in your head or in your heart at those moments because i'm sure we've all been there well you're having four impulse control

[@17:00](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=1020.0) - **Michael**

probably if you speak. it's I like the verse and the Bible says a soft word turns away wrath. Instead of meeting wrath with wrath it's, you know, I've learned as I got ordered to try to wait for a little while and then say something more productive, really.

[@17:22](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=1042.62) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, you remind me when you said that, Michael, it takes the phrase it takes to detangle. You know, have you ever like had this argument going on and you'd like, man, I just wish we'd stop arguing.

I just wish this argument would end, right? But it takes, as they say, to detangle, you know, if pride and pride come together and somebody just won't relent, somebody won't let down, you got this war of words going on.

Go ahead, Michael.

[@17:49](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=1069.58) - **Michael**

One technique is to ask them a question about their position.

[@17:53](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=1073.58) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Oh, okay. Yeah, I haven't heard that technique. I'm sure Luke as a counselor probably has a lot of those techniques.

to draw from. But really, when you're on that cusp of wanting to say something and you just want to respond, you know, you just want to feel vindicated or justified, right?

Because that's typically why those things come out of our mouths is, you know, we want to feel like, you know, we're justified in what we're saying, or we feel vindicated in how we're feeling.

But basically, God is saying, no, don't, you know, because in those heated moments, when we let our passion rise up, we can go off the track, off the rails, if you will, off the tracks.

But we're, instead, we're to give grace. And can you give something you don't have? No, you can't, right?

[@18:50](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=1130.62) - **Luke**

Well, you can't make something out of nothing, right?

[@18:53](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=1133.16) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Right. So in order to speak something good and to give grace to people, that means we have to have grace first.

Right? So, have we, what this scripture really should do is say, have we a good understanding? Have we obtained a good understanding of God's grace?

Do we understand what it's like to be in God's grace? Because I think when we have that revelation that we've been blessed, even though we don't deserve it, that we've seen favor of God when we really should be experiencing the judgment of God, we look at things differently, right?

I mean, how has grace impacted your life? Maybe share that. How has grace impacted you? Those moments you realized, wow, that really is God's grace upon me.

[@19:47](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=1187.46) - **Luke**

Being stupid in your 20s and having very little to negative consequences for it. mean, that's grace.

[@19:57](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=1197.1) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, making some bad decisions that you know should have gotten sideways. And but God kept you I've been there done that thankfully he kept me Also from first on one nine we have second and third chances We have a lot of chances, but we always have to repent in order to get back to God as far as our relationship Right, I believe you don't lose your salvation with faith We please God with keeping our faith in him, but our relationship can change through Yeah, yeah, the dynamics of a relationship I mean, I think the kind of what you mean about salvation or not is totally different Bible study So no one to touch touch on that But I agree it changes that dynamic of the relationship because you know most of us had parents We grew up with parents or even caretakers of some kind right and hopefully they had some kind of trust on us But we did something at some point where we maybe broke that trust or push that trust to the limits, you know or disappointed our caretakers our parents and maybe they express that and it

takes a while to rebuild that trust or rebuild that relationship when, you know, you weren't being or doing maybe what you should have, right?

And if we look at God as a father, that's what you do, isn't it? Yep, totally. So, okay, so how important is this topic First Corinthians chapter 15 and Julie, would you mind reading verse 33, please?

33. First Corinthians 15 verse 33. not be deceived. Evil company corrupts good heavens. There's that word corrupt again and it actually is the same word.

And notice it said, don't be deceived. And we know the word deceived, we've studied that before. But it means again, being led into error to go astray or to be just seduced, a corrupt communication or evil, right?

Again, something bad coming out of your mouth, something kind of communication here is even a deeper word in this sense, in this particular scripture.

This word communication has the companionship by implementing implication of . So when you're trying to communicate something that is so deep in you, first of all, don't want to be deceived, deceiving yourself.

Remember, Jeremiah, don't have it in our scripture list here. I think it's Jeremiah 17 verse 9, the heart is deceptive.

Who can know it, right? Deceptive and evil or deceitfully wicked, something like that. I know I'm stumbling over it, but maybe I can find it quickly.

[@22:49](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=1369.18) - **Michael**

I can say it, the heart of man is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. Who can know? I, the Lord, search the heart.

I tried the reins even to give every minute according to to his works according to the root of his doing 17 9 and 10.

[@23:05](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=1385.24) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

There you go and go Mike and you noticed the heart and the what was in verse 10 I believe the words right so when we're trying to communicate something that's deep within us we have to first of all be honest with ourselves because if we haven't been honest with ourselves we run the risk of being deceived right being led astray by what we think we're going to communicate thinking we're in the right position we that we've got the justification that you know we might have been wronged and so we think we're the ones who can vindicate ourselves and we've got the right footing to do it because we're in the right right place they're the ones who've offended us but we could be deceived in that moment because we don't realize maybe how good the grace of God has been towards us and we really should be extending that grace to the one that we're about to speak.

do because maybe they didn't realize what they did was so offensive. Maybe they didn't realize that they're in air, you know?

And so we want to first be honest with ourselves. We first want to say, you know, how has Grace affected us?

And in turn, am I what am I about to say? Is it going to bring Grace to the person?

Is it going to better the situation? And if you remember in a previous Bible study, I talked about the power of the pause.

You know, sometimes we, my dad used to always say, you know, think before you speak. And I think what he was trying to communicate to me at the moment was pause for a second.

Think about what the words are you're going to say. Now, of course, as a kid, I didn't get the meaning.

I didn't understand. so I would just have this gut reaction. I'm going to speak, you know, whatever was on.

And I found that that would cause more damage, right? But I found as I would take a moment to pause.

I'd sign power in that pause to assess is what I'm really going to say, going to come across right.

Am I phrasing it with grace? Maybe I haven't thought in those terms exactly, but essentially that's where the power of the pause does, and it maybe softens your response.

But notice also in 1st 13, 33, that if we let our emotions control ourselves, if we are deceived by what we want to communicate from within, and we haven't applied the grace of God to it, what happens?

It can corrupt good manners. What does that really mean? It can corrupt our character. If we constantly respond from a gut level, we're developing a habit.

Habits develop character. They become instinctual over time. We don't think about, we just do, and that becomes who we are.

are that develops character and see God wants us to develop good character so he wants us to develop good habits so the way you change something you might have said well that's the way I was in the past and maybe even that's how I am now how do I go from what I am now to what I want to be there's sometimes a long road in between how do I get from A to B and that's when you start to learn about things like the power of the pause when you realize oh this is the way I'm going be I I've seen myself behaving this way and also when you're on that verge and you realize my normal response would be this but wait a second if I pause as might put it have some self restraint for a second then I do something different now I'm starting to break habit I'm starting to tear down what I used to be and I'm building something up instead in its place everybody with me so far

Okay, so we deceive ourselves when we think no one's hurt by our worries. But the truth is, when we fly off the handle, when we just go at the whim of what we're feeling, we're hurting ourselves, we're tearing down the spiritual man from within.

It's like, if you took a, if you walked up to a dam that's holding the river or the, you know, the body of water behind this dam, if you take out one brick, is that really going to affect the dam?

Depends. I don't know if you heard Julie that she said it depends on where the bricks located, maybe at the top it's not going to do much, but what does happen, no matter where you take that brick out, some water starts to spill over, doesn't it?

And so this is what I'm talking about habit, starts to form. Because at an early point in our lives, if we didn't respond correctly, we've pulled that

brick out of place. And the water starts to leak in, right? The habit starts to be built. You pull another brick out of that dam from the very first time you took the first brick and weakened the dam.

But the second brick now has weakened it not just by two, but it becomes exponential. It becomes even, it's not like saying, well, I've got a power times a power saying one times one is still equal to one.

No, now you've got one times instead of two, maybe times ten. And so you've got this greater impact by taking that second brick.

And so by the time you take that third brick out of that dam, you may have weakened it so that the whole dam collapses, even though it was only three bricks.

Make sense? And so to rebuild that dam, you can't just throw all the bricks at it. You know, let's say the whole thing collapses, you can't just start picking up the bricks and throwing them and getting them back into a heap.

It's not going to work. You have to lay the bricks. brick by brick. And that's why scripture even says in Isaiah, again, it's not on our, on our scriptural list, but every line line upon line, precept upon precept, you have to build with the principles of God, you have to be intentional about it.

You know, put this brick in that place, put the next brick right next to it, it's proper place. And so this is the idea of communication, we, we slip up, we make mistakes, I get that, but what do we learn from that?

Well, let's go to James chapter one.

[@29:56](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=1796.6) - **Carmen**

We're gonna go to James chapter one. We're read mind yep.

[@29:59](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=1799.6) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

And verse 26. Please.

[@30:27](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=1827.38) - **Carmen**

If any, if any man among you seem to be observant and bridles not his tongue, but deceives his own heart.

This man observance is in vain.

[@30:38](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=1838.6) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yes. And that word observance is also translated as religion, right, or religious. And so what, what the King James is saying is bridal.

Your version said bridles and King James' version said bridal lift. And we know that and deceives, I think, is your version and the King James'

to see if. And remembering the King James, that little T-H on the end, to continuously. It's something that's ongoing.

So think about what it's saying. If any of you seems to be religious and you're not bridling, constantly bridling, and what is the word bridling or bridle, means to guide, hold and check or restrain.

What are you supposed to restrain, hold and check? Your tongue. You end up deceiving, constantly deceiving your own heart.

And what did we say? word heart means the seat of your emotions, really. And so therefore, what you seem to be religious about is really vain.

And that word vain means devoid of force or without power. It's useless or of no purpose. So again, understanding those words, what is that?

Scripture saying to us is saying, look, look, if you're not bridle, If you're not showing restraint and you just let fly what's ever in your heart, then you're not being truly religious, if you will, or spiritual.

You're only having an outward show of scripture would say, but denying the real power of God to work in you, right?

know that scripture. For some have embraced the form of godliness, but deny the power of it. What is that really saying?

It's saying that we need again need to understand the grace of God in our life and run our emotions and words we want to say through that filter first.

And if we aren't, we're deceiving ourselves and we're really appearing to those who are looking up from the outside into us or around us as somebody who really isn't spiritual at all.

are, then they're seeing that. We might not be able to see it because we're too close to the source, but if not being honest with what we're really supposed to be saying, we're supposed to be saying it, we need to be careful because then people are judging us, you know, not in a sense of condemning, but judging us saying, now they really, I thought they were a Christian, I thought they believed in God, I thought they were supposed to be living better than that, right?

We tear down our witness, we tear down ourselves when we just respond from a gut level. When you go ahead and lash out, you end up deceiving your own self, you think you feel better forgetting it out and you might for a second, right?

But in reality, you just tricked yourself because later, and I'm sure we've all been there, your emotions get the better of you and you start beating yourself up, oh, I shouldn't have said that, right?

God allows that because that's conscious in us, that's how conscious works. He's given us all conscious, and if we go, oh, wait a minute, I really shouldn't said

been like that. If we adhere to that conscious that God is trying to prompt us to get to do us to do the right thing, if we adhere to that consciousness and go, okay, I need to go unapologize.

Now we clear up the air. If we don't, in that conscious and we say, I know it's there because I'm feeling this and I say, no, I'm not going to respond and do the right thing.

It's like taking a hot iron and searing that conscience. It burns it. like, so I don't want to feel that way because what do you do with the hot iron, you know, and you brand a cow, you touch them on that spot or I've seen people brand their tattoos or something, you know, they get a branding on their arm.

You touch that spot, they don't feel there anymore. The nerves have been burned away. They become desensitized. So when you have that conscious going on saying, you really shouldn't have said that, and you don't do the right thing, you're searing your conscience.

And scripture tells us that if you do that, long enough, you end up with a seared conscious, you won't feel anything towards God when he tries to move on you to do the right thing.

Does this make sense? Okay. So, on the other hand, if we do repent and we take it to God and say, look, I misbehave, give me an opportunity to say the right thing to do the right thing.

And then we go and we apologize to that person if we can, maybe it was a stranger, we don't have the opportunity, but we've gone to God at least, and he knows the intent of our heart is to make it right.

Then he wipes us like clean, if you will. It's so important that we do not deceive our own hearts.

Let's go to Deuteronomy chapter 11. Deuteronomy chapter 11. And Luke, do mind reading verse 16 from Deuteronomy 11?

[@35:53](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=2153.92) - **Luke**

Sure, 16. Rather, the land you will soon take over is a land of hills and valleys, with plenty of rain.

I think you might be in a different chapter, Luke, apologize, but it should be chapter 11. Oh, I was at the reverse, excuse me, but be careful, do not let your heart be deceived so that you turn away from the Lord and serve the worship of other gods.

[@36:31](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=2191.5) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Thank you. So you see, when our hearts are deceived, when we sear that conscience and we think we're right, and you might be totally in the right, but maybe the way you said it didn't come across as it should have, and you shouldn't have used those harsh words or the harsh tone, right?

Because it didn't edify the person, it didn't fix the situation. And so your conscience is like, I know I'm right, man, something doesn't feel right in me, you know, about this situation.

And I don't feel released because, you know, I feel like I made it worse, even though I'm right. And God is speaking to you and you're conscious and you're going, I really should go and make the situation better when you deceive yourself and say, no, I'm good.

I'm okay. And you kind of sear that conscious. What happens over time you deceive yourself and what can that deception lead to?

According to this scripture, you serve false gods. You serve false gods. That's why the other scripture said your religion, you seem religious, but you are no longer serving the true God.

Your worship has become in vain. So what's important, what we're learning is that if we're not saying and doing the right things and God is trying to work on us to do the right things, eventually God will stop working on us.

And that's a dangerous place to be. because we always want God to prompt and lead and guide and correct us.

I think it's revelation that says he rebukes and chastens those whom he loves. And so if God is prompting you, you know, to do something and to correct a situation, you know that he loves you because he wants you to grow.

He wants you to improve. And when you stop and you resist and you see that conscious, you're basically telling God, get your hands off.

I don't want to listen to that. I don't want to be obedient to that. And over time, God will say, okay, you don't want me to interject.

You don't want me to help you out. Then, okay, you know, it's kind of like the child who says, and this is maybe not the perfect example, but who says, you know, I want to touch the stove and you're telling the child, but the stove's hot, you know, and the child touches it and it gets burned.

And God says, well, let me put some salve on it. the child goes, no, I don't want put salve on it.

It hurts. It's pain. And you're gonna touch it and make it worse and God's and God knows no I'm gonna make it better if I put Sav on it and and heal it But you and the child goes no I don't want it and it God's gonna say okay I'm not gonna put the Sav on it But the child's gonna sit there with that hurt finger and it's gonna blister and be bad, right?

[@39:19](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=2359.24) - **Michael**

Yeah, I've also seen that in Hebrews and maybe in Psalms That same idea that I think in Hebrew says God chases every son he loves yes So just like an adult father, you don't want a spoiled kid right?

[@39:33](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=2373.98) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Right and so When did you ever have you ever been as a kid maybe or a teenager? Maybe a babysitter came over or an or uncle came over and you know they're watching you but They're supposed to be watching you but they're watching TV or they're on their phone or something instead or they're watching a movie And they don't want to be bothered and so you can tell you know You know you're up to some mischief and you just kind of

testing them to see, are they going to respond or not? Have you ever been in that situation? Or maybe your kids have been and they told you about it.

Have you ever experienced something like that? You know, from the kid's viewpoint, they recognize when the parent, the guardian, the caretaker is laxadaisical.

It doesn't really care for them. They read that. They understand that. And how? Because they're getting away with what they want to do.

They know it because there's no discipline. They know the discipline comes out of love, real genuine discipline, discipline that is meant to help and correct and encourage edify as we talked about.

Now there's a difference. Go ahead, Mike.

[@40:43](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=2443.28) - **Michael**

And you get kids often see it as protection, too.

[@40:47](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=2447.44) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yes. kids know the difference between what I'll call the right kind of discipline and edifying discipline versus destructive discipline, right?

really misguided. Now I grew up in a foster home until I was age seven, so physically abused. I know that there was, you know, alcohol involved with the father, and he would get on these tirades, and he'd whip off his belt and just start whipping all of us kids, right?

There were five of their own kids, and then me, and anyone who was in the way got hit with the belt.

And of course he's throwing out accusations, you know, but that wasn't real discipline. That was like just anger and frustration versus when I when I was adopted, and I had his problem of lying, because in the foster home, I would say, you know, even if you spoke the truth, you got beat for speaking the truth.

So you end up lying about everything. And so when I first got into my new, I stopped at home, I had this problem with lying.

And my parents would punish me for lying to get me to stop lying and start telling the truth, right?

So that was corrective discipline. That was good edifying discipline because it changed my character to be better. I saw the difference in the two, and kids, everybody, everybody, even as adults, we know the difference, and we know the genuine correction comes from God.

It's because he loves us. Go ahead, Mike. I remember getting the belt and it was an attitude changer.

[@42:18](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=2538.18) - **Michael**

I now understood who was in control, really, just like with God, right?

[@42:22](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=2542.24) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Mm-hmm. So the hard part is nobody likes punishment, even or correction. Let me put it that way. That's a better word.

Punishment is different than correction. Nobody likes correction. know, we feel embarrassed. There's a sting even to that correction, like Mike just pointed out.

Sometimes the belt was used to correct in a positive way to say that's bad behavior. You have to understand that that's bad behavior because there's pain associated with that bad behavior.

now, and then get taught what's the correct behavior because it wasn't just the belt wasn't meant to be. the end all be all, it was meant okay, now the help, here's the pain for that punishment, but now you're taught and instructed, you should do this instead, right?

Hopefully. So nobody likes correction. Everybody understands they're sitting involved with that correction. But we need that correction. If we don't, we let that anger and and strife just build up in us.

Even Colossians, Colossians chapter three. If we don't see correction the right way, we're going to be tainted. We have to understand correction is for our benefit.

Colossians chapter three, Leanne, the wrong way?

[@43:57](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=2637.94) - **Lee Anne P.**

Give me just a moment.

[@43:59](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=2639.28) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Sure, no problem. Colossians 3 and verse 8.

[@44:15](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=2655.58) - **Lee Anne P.**

But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these anger, rage, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

[@44:29](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=2669.78) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Notice the connection there. He's talking about anger and wrath, malice, all these things that are external, typically in our actions, but he concludes with filthy language or filthy communication, right?

So it has to do with our words. Our words are prompting these external things. If we are not processing correctly inside, it can lead to that.

If we don't understand correctly, it can lead to that resentment within, that we're not processing correctly. resentment and frustration can lead to the outward things of anger, wrath, right?

So to clean up the outside, we need to clean up the inside first, right? We need to understand that our words have impact.

Even those words, believe this or not, even those words you're speaking to yourself. Let's go to Matthew chapter 5.

Matthew chapter 5 verse 37 and I think I'm back to Julie. Would you mind reading that please? Matthew chapter 5 verse 37.

So let your yes be yes and your no no for whatever is more than these is from the evil one.

So this is a read letter or section in the Bible, meaning Jesus is talking here in Matthew 5 37.

So he's saying, let your yes be yes, your a b a, your no be no, your may be no, no.

So he's saying, essentially, just be honest, right, be right, don't, don't get all fluffy about what you're trying to say, don't try to exaggerate, don't try to embellish, be straightforward in what you say, me, in other words, mean what you say, because if you say yes, then it's yes, you're going to do it.

If you say no, then no, you're not going to do it. It's that simple. People should understand exactly what you're saying.

There should not be a need for flowery words or further explanation. It should be so simple, and it should be straight to the point.

And so these are the kinds of things you even have to speak to yourself. If you understand the grace that God has given you, then you have to, you have to speak those things to yourself and realize, God, you've been good to me, I didn't deserve this.

When you say those kinds of things to yourself, now you're building up the right character within yourself so that when you then speak to somebody else, you have this filter that you're sharing

through. You realize how good God has been to you. You built up the right thing in you. Now you can share the right thing out.

It's like, we said it's hard to put to give something away that you don't have inside. If you haven't told yourself that God is good to you, how can you express that God is good to somebody else?

If you haven't put in within you the love, the joy, the peace that God has given you, if you haven't grabbed a hold of that and understood that, you turnalize that, how can you draw out of that from you to give it to someone else?

Does that make sense? So we're to simply mean what we say and say what we mean. You probably heard that phrase.

And therefore, the implication is simply speak truthfully. Let's go to phalemnon. I'm not sure I'm pronouncing that right in this book.

We probably go, where is that? Because it's, I think, one or two pages. Phalemnon is right before Hebrews. So look for Hebrews and turn back a page.

It's, it's really only one chapter. Phalemnon. I pray that the fellowship of your faith may become effective through the knowledge of every good thing which is in you for Christ's sake and the beginning of your translation I'm gonna the King James said that the communication of thy faith what did your say that first sentence and I pray that the fellowship of your faith fellowship there you go fellowship so fellowship and communication same translation here and it also means by implication inner course or intimacy you see your faith mingled with your relationship with God is what creates intimacy if you will right

it creates the fellowship with God, and it's the way you communicate that outwardly to others. So, your faith has to build from within.

When you build your faith properly, and you're building that relationship up with God, you're having that close intimate kind of like, you know, it uses the Indian like , you're that close to God, you're that intimate with God.

When you build up that faith and that closeness to God, you have then are able to have a real fellowship with others, because now it's coming out through your communication.

And that word effectual or powerful becomes powerful, because active communication, because you're acknowledging, it says, every good thing, which is in you.

And what's every good thing in you? Christ, Jesus in you. When you recognize that first within, that what God has done for you, the grace He's given you, and you really accept that, you totally get that.

And you're like, God, thank you, thank you, thank you, you can't express that enough to God, you are so close, you're just saying you're overwhelmed with how good he is, it just naturally comes forth in how you speak to others.

And when you speak that way to others, their lives are changed because there's power in when you communicate that to them, because they see something different than the way the rest of the world treats them.

They hear something different than the rest than that coming out of you because you really have Christ in you.

Let's go to Proverbs chapter 8. Proverbs chapter 8. And Carmen, would you mind reading for us verse 7 of Proverbs chapter 8?

[@51:06](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=3066.06) - **Carmen**

When my mouth shall speak truth and wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

[@51:12](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=3072.22) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Thank you. So, you see, when you realize the grace God has given you and you developed that close with God and it comes out naturally, the thing that happens naturally that you want to do is speak truth and anything contrary to that is just like you can't stand it.

You feel horrible when, for example, you're trying to live for God, something inappropriate comes out of your lips. Your conscience actually goes from being seared to being heightened.

So when you constantly deny God, you're searing Him, but yet on the other hand, when you constantly obey God, you're fine-tuning your conscience.

It's like going from a four-cylinder engine to a V12, know, we're also, wow, you're like so sensitive to everything.

very little twist and curve of the steering wheel, you know, God has in your life, you go, because God, there's scripture even that says God will correct us through the look of his eye, like as a good parent, you know, if you have a good relationship with your kid and you use a discipline appropriately, and you know the kid is, you know, let's say you're in crowd and there's other kids and other parents and you know your kid is doing something wrong, you don't even have to say anything after while, because all you got to do is give him a look like and the kid will know because he knows the correct discipline and he knows that if he doesn't change, he's going to face that discipline.

And so we become sensitive like that. God can correct us that easily when we are so in tune with his word, his will, his grace within us.

[@52:50](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=3170.74) - **Michael**

Go ahead, Mike. That reminds me of when Jesus looked at Peter after he had denied three times, there he just looked at him.

[@53:00](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=3180.0) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

actually. So there's a there's a scriptural proof to what we're saying. So in Proverbs, what Carmen read for us, if you go back and read the whole chapter, we'll see who is talking.

And we see that wisdom is talking here in that verse in Proverbs eight seven. And so wisdom is are those who speak comes from those who speak wisely truth.

So when you speak truth, you're tapping into wisdom. You know, you might say, I want the wisdom of God.

Well, if you really want the wisdom of God, then you have to speak truth. Because truth and wisdom are so tied together.

Let's go to Psalms 15. Psalm 15 and Julie, would you mind reading verses one through three, please? Lord, who may I abide in your tabernacle?

of who made well in your holy hill. He who walks uprightly and works righteousness and speaks the truth in this heart.

And he who does not back by this tongue, nor does evil to his neighbor, nor does he take up approach against his friend.

Okay, so who can be in God's tabernacle? The tabernacle is where God's presence dwelt. So in other words, who can abide in God's presence?

Those who speak truth. When we back by it or talk evil about someone else, remember we're tearing down, right?

We're tearing them down. But when we speak truth, we're lifting them up. So scripture says, you know, we are to speak the truth in love.

It's somewhere in, I think, sounds as well. when you speak truth in love, that doesn't mean it's all lovey-dovey.

know, some people people might say after you say something and how could you say that to me that's so mean, know, and it's so upsetting to me, you know, that's not loving, but love love speaks truth in the sense of like to correct and to discipline and get you on the right path.

If I see you, for example, imbibing an alcohol every day to the point where you can't even function, you're an alcoholic, you're drinking every day.

And I'm telling you that you are an alcoholic, that person might go, wait a minute, you're judging me, you're condemning me, that's not loving.

No, it is loving because I'm telling you, you're destroying yourself. And if you keep on that path, you're going to die physically because your liver is going to get shot.

Right. And so I'm speaking truth in love because I don't want you to continue down that path. want you to correct and stop drinking so your liver gets better so your body gets better so you live.

I'm speaking truth in love. So when you hear that phrase. speaking truth and love, doesn't mean you have to be even soft in your approach.

It doesn't mean you have to be lovey-dovey in your approach. You have to use the approach God lays upon you for that person.

Remember Paul in his letter says, I've become everything to everybody or some things to some people. He was saying, I've adjusted my tactics with whomever I meet so I can hopefully win them to God.

Some people are so sensitive and you would not want to be harsh to that person because you know they're going to take it so sensitively.

Some people are very harsh, you know, very rough type of people. You don't want to approach them so timid and sensitive, you know, like, you know, or just little mouse?

No, because they will never receive it. You need to adjust how you're expressing that love to them so that they actually receive it.

Go ahead, Mike.

[@56:52](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=3412.96) - **Michael**

Yeah, if you're too harsh, like you said, you'll put them on the defensive and you won't get anything through it, right?

[@56:58](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=3418.88) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Mm-hmm. But sometimes, do you need to do that? I'll give you an example. My daughter who was 14 at the time was going through a lot and she had to be hospitalized for cutting.

And up to that point, we had tried the soft approach, if you will. finally when she got home and I knew one of the things was the spiritual attack through some of this music she was listening to, I had to raise the level of intensity and said, this is what this is doing to you.

I couldn't just sit back and continue to be soft because that approach wasn't working. It didn't work. And so if I had stayed on that approach, it would have been destructive to her.

I had to heighten it for that moment that time, right? So you have to, as some people say, read the room, read the character, read the person, read the situation.

But more importantly, read what God is doing within you. That's why it starts from within. If God is impressing upon you, just say something.

something. He'll not only give you the words. He'll give you the proper level of intensity. He'll give you the direction that God is a good God.

He knows everything about everyone. He knows exactly what it would take to get you to serve Him, to love Him, to appreciate Him, and what it will take for the other person to love them and serve for them to love and serve Him.

So He uses you to reach that person, rather than me, because you'll be in tune with that person and their need and God will filter it through you, rather than me, because I might not be in tune with that person.

You see? So just be sensitive to what God is saying to you at the moment, at the time, to reach that individual.

[@58:40](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=3520.98) - **Michael**

Yeah, the Lord told Paul, wasn't it, that don't think what you'll say, well, when I put you before kings, I'll put the words in your mouth, right?

[@58:49](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=3529.14) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Exactly. Leanne, go ahead. You want to say something? Hi.

[@58:55](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=3535.2) - **Lee Anne P.**

In less extreme cases. You know, your examples were very extreme, but for active action, that's where our grace comes in, is because our hearts are open and our minds are open and we're empathetic.

We can put ourselves in other shoes and I never used to be like that. My whole life and now that my heart and my mind are open to Jesus, know, I can approach people unabashedly and, you know, with grace and, you know, guide them gently into collective action.

[@59:46](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=3586.46) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

That's awesome. And I think you're really proving the point, like we're saying, is like, because you understand what the grace is that God has shown you, you now have that empathy to show it to others.

That's awesome. Let's go to Zachariah. Old Testament, almost second to last book of the Old Testament, so just before you get to the Gospels.

Zechariah chapter 8, after this one, we've only got two more scriptures we'll read. So Zechariah 8, welcome to Sydney.

We're glad that you're here. We're talking about corrupt communication today, and we're going to Zechariah chapter 8, let's read verses 16 and 17, and Luke, would you mind reading that for us, please?

[@1:00:36](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=3636.58) - **Luke**

Yes, Zechariah 8 or 16, but this is what you must do. Tell the truth to each other. Render verdicts in your courts that are just and lead to peace.

Don't scheme against each other. Stop your love of telling lies that you swear that are the truth. I hate all these things, so.

as the Lord.

[@1:01:01](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=3661.82) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So God is so desiring us to speak truth. He wants us to build up and encourage one another because God is God of life, not destruction, not of death.

when we speak to others, we should really try to be conscious. Are we adding value as far as bringing one?

Verse Peter chapter one and let's read verse 15. Verse Peter 1, 15. Mike, would you mind reading that verse please?

[@1:01:44](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=3704.72) - **Michael**

I'd like to holy one who called you. Be holy yourselves also in all your behavior because it is written.

You shall be holy for I am holy.

[@1:01:58](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=3718.08) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

And your translation used the word behavior. The King James said, in all manner of conversation. So you see, conversation, behavior, go together.

talked about that, how what's happening inside, words that you speak will eventually influence the way that you act. And so we are to be holy.

Because God is holy. We're to speak truth. Why? Because God is truth, know? All these things. One last thing I want to do before we get into the end of the discussion here is read the entire chapter of Ephesians 4.

That's where we started. We started with just the one verse in Ephesians 4, verse 29. But I want to read to you the whole chapter.

Now try to do it quickly, okay? So I'm in Ephesians 4, I'm gonna start with the chapter. I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, sichi that you walk worthy of the vocation, wherewith you are called, with all loneliness and meekness, with long suffering for bearing one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body and body. One Spirit, even as you are called in one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God, even Father of all, is above all, and through all, and in you all.

But unto every one of us is given grace, according to the measure of the gift of Christ, wherefore he saith, when he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive and gave gifts unto men.

Now that he ascended, what is it, but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?

He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things, and he gave some apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God unto a perfect man unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, that we henceforth be known.

No more children, toss. to do and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine but by the slight of man and cunning craftiness which whereby they lie and wait to deceive.

But speaking the truth in love may grow up into him in all things which is the head, even Christ, from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supply of according to the effectual working in the measure of every part making make an increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

This I say therefore and testify in the Lord that she henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk in the vanity of their mind, having the understanding darkened being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them because of the blindness of their heart who being past feeling had given themselves over into liciviousness to work all in cleanness with greediness but ye have not so learned Christ if so be that ye have heard him and have been taught by him as the truth is in

Jesus, that you put off concerning the former conversation, the old man which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness, where for putting away, lying, speaking every man truth with his neighbor, for we are members of one another.

Be angry and sin not, let not the sun go down upon your wrath, neither give place to the devil, let him that stole steal no more, rather let him labor working with his hands, the thing which is good that he may have to give to him that needeth, let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying that it may minister grace under the years, and grieve not the Holy Spirit of God whereby ye are sealed unto the day of let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and evil speaking be put away from you with all malice and be ye kind to one another.

Tender hearted for giving one another even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you The reason I wanted to read that chapters, I think it sums up everything we were talking about today It talks about basically realize what God has done for you the grace.

He's given you Realize he loves you realize he wants you to speak truth to others and And that you know, he's changing us And he wants us to leave the old man behind and embrace him and brace what he's doing inside of us Let it come out and how we treat others.

I Think that's at least a summation I got out of that chapter So how's this hit you today? What thoughts are prompting you today because of what we covered?

We often let the past dictate us that if we have been torn down or had negative things, it's so it's easier to receive and believe the negative than it is the positive, and when we come to Christ, we can know He gave us, we can know He has grace and mercy, but we have to receive it.

We have to truly believe that we are forgiven, that God's love consumes us, and that we have to receive that in order for our true walk to really minister to others, because if they're just words on a page that we read in the Bible, and we don't allow it to penetrate our being and allow God's spirit to move within us, to let us walk away from the negative things, we can't truly be who we are supposed to be in God.

Yeah, that's very true. We have to be willing to receive, love the grace, all of that from God, right?

agree with you. Yeah, go ahead.

[@1:07:57](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4077.8) - **Lee Anne P.**

Thank you, Julie. it's so much easier. Uh, especially when you have a lifetime of bitterness, uh, of addiction. Um, you know, uh, alcoholic father to be hardwired into the negativity.

Um, and then recovery. Um, if we refer to a Deuteronomy, be careful. Or you will be enticed to turn away and worship other gods and bow down to them.

Um, my life was what I think and this might be wrong, but the way I internalize that is my ego is the false God.

And through all that, I can easily worship, you know, I can be jealous. So then I gossip about somebody, which makes me feel better than that person.

Um, you know, I can, you know, I can. and lied to manipulate to get what I want because of my ego.

And so when I see false God, and this might be wrong in the Bible, I equate it to my ego, because all health and break loose when I let myself, you know, my ego take over.

My ego is not my amigo.

[@1:09:26](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4166.56) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, that's a good phrase. My ego is not my amigo. I agree with you that ego that self can become a God to a lot of people, right?

Because you worship your own thoughts and your own ways above God. Yeah, so it truly can be an idol.

Yeah, anybody else? is this hit you today? What does it make you think or feel that, you know?

[@1:09:47](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4187.84) - **Michael**

Well, I agree with the lady before, you know, we care around a lot of negative things that people have said or we've thought.

And for me, it's really understanding the love. of God and I think Spurgeon helped me understand that somewhat. We're not on a tightrope with God's love.

I think Michael Karch said one of his songs, God cannot love more and he will not love less. So God's love is not fickle like a person's emotions go back and forth.

God's love is steadfast even for the sinner who dies in their sin. So for me, it's about love that's something I have to learn.

And yeah, so there's many, like she said, many positive, look at the positive promises of God's love and forgiveness and not always look at legalism or hedonism, which are the two things that I often hear about in the world.

[@1:10:55](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4255.18) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah. I like how you said that, Mike, about like some love is not walking a tightrope. And I think

In the physical at least for me when I grew up that you felt like you had to earn love, right?

Especially given the background that I had I felt like I had to earn somebody's love or you know If I didn't do the right thing or something they don't love me anymore if I did the right thing They do love me, know So when I first came to God that was a very big thing for me, know I had to learn that my sin didn't mean God loved me the less You know when he would correct me, you know, it was actually a good thing in a way that he was actually Showing me that he loved me And the deal where you pull yourself up by your bootstraps and fit yourself is also erroneous Only God can change your heart and legalism.

[@1:11:40](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4300.72) - **Michael**

You'll never win with legalistic people There's no way you can keep ahead of their their you know Whatever whatever thing they set up just like the Pharisees they were you adding to the law, right?

[@1:11:55](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4315.06) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, yep, that's so true Anybody else how did this hit you today or anything? And you want to share a revelation got her.

[@1:12:07](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4327.32) - **Lee Anne P.**

I do have a question.

[@1:12:10](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4330.96) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah.

[@1:12:13](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4333.36) - **Lee Anne P.**

You differentiated between punishment and correction. But my question is, why does the Bible use the term punishment?

[@1:12:25](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4345.78) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So not correction. Yeah, punishment can be correction. But not all correction is punishment. So if I see you doing something wrong and I simply say, you know, you really shouldn't be doing that.

You should be doing this instead. I'm correcting you, right? But I didn't buy any punishment. Now, if I punish you, I see you doing something wrong and I punish you to bring that pain associated to what it was you were doing, you know, that can also be correction.

Punishment can be correction. So I can say. You shouldn't have done that. Give the spanking. That's punishment. And then say to you, you know, now instead of doing this, you should really be doing that.

That's part of the correction. So I can leave punishment out of correction, but I really shouldn't leave correction out of punishment because when I do, then I'm just being vindictive.

[@1:13:20](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4400.12) - **Lee Anne P.**

I got it. Thank you.

[@1:13:21](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4401.88) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

That sometimes does punish us. I was just reading in the book of 2 Samuel where David sinned and had to affair with the Shiva and then ultimately killed her husband.

Well, later that child that came from that infidelity died, know, that was kind of God's way of saying, I'm not okay with what we did, killing the husband and having this affair and really chasing David to reevaluate his choices and his decisions and showing him that it was wrong.

That's an excellent example because, you know, you go, well, why did God take it out on that child? Because many times punishment,

you see in scripture came through other people that were not affected from the individual like even when David numbered the people and God then caused a plague to hit the line and 30,000 people died right because of what David did that was a punishment still David but the innocent the people that weren't part of it got affected so sometimes the reason God does those and especially let's use the example Julie Julie brought up about this child if God had allowed that child to grow and become you know full of grown person David would have seen his actions as being something okay pleasant because what do you associate with a child in growth especially when you come in as a union something that's a positive it's a fruit it's a positive thing and he would have associated his bad action is something positive and good and it would have propelled him to keep doing that kind of thing right and so God brought punishment to get him to start

up to realize, no, there's no good fruit that comes as a result of a bad action.

[@1:15:06](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4506.92) - **Michael**

It's not only that, Tamar was , Absalom rebelled and was murdered, so he had a lot of trouble in his family.

[@1:15:14](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4514.46) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yep, yep. So, but you know, what I'm trying to say is, you know, when we look at our corrections and the punishment that sometimes God brings to us, it's so that we will, and this is what punishment is meant to do, is bring the pain associated with the actions so you will avoid the action going forward.

So, sometimes there's, there's judgment and punishment too, which we have to be careful about, right, and consequences. So, sin has consequences.

God put a law over this physical realm that if you, that part of that law is the spiritual and the physical do not

are not totally inseparable. They don't exist independently. The physical and the spiritual, the physical only exists because of the spiritual, so they're intertwined.

So the spiritual has its law, and the physical has its law, and because they're intertwined, there's some laws that correlate that are in conjunction.

So when you sin, there's physical consequence that sometimes happens in the natural law, in the natural state. Scripture tells us, for example, avoid strong drinking.

I use the example of being an alcoholic. I'm not trying to debate right now is alcohol, an issue, the Bible or not.

That is a totally different description and Bible study. But what I am saying is that over-intoxicating and becoming drunk on a regular basis is something that is against Scripture.

we know that is a sin. Just the occasional, Drinking different discussion. Okay, why that different time but being constant but getting drunk and being drunk constantly as a sin against God so in there's a sin and then there's the physical consequence of that sin you destroy your liver It just is gonna Sorry I'm sorry somebody might say something else, but there's a there's a natural consequence to that now you may stop drinking and stop Becoming drunk and stop sinning But the consequence is there you now have the damaged liver and unless of course God Hues you you know, but most cases he lets us live with the consequences as a reminder to never go back And pain lets us know we've moved away from him many times, but not always You can't always say the person like Job or the good Samaritan person It's not always because they need to come back together Right, right.

I mean and for us to for us to say, well, why is this happening? Why did that happen to this person?

Why does this happen to that person? Why does this happen to me? I don't, we should never play that game either because even the disciples got it wrong.

They said, well, why is that man blind? it something he did, his parents did? You know, even though he was born blind from birth, you know, it must have been something his parents did is the way they read it.

And he said, no, God allowed it for this purpose. So he would be healed and glory to God, right?

then he healed the man's eyes. So we don't want to get into trying to figure out why is this happening?

What's the purpose in that? We're only responsible for ourselves. And we are such a bad coordinator of our own lives, you know?

I mean, it's like I was talking to a couple of people, one in an email and one in a physical meeting this week, and both had the same idea or concept about people were trying to control them, even in the church.

Control isn't is a you can't control anybody. It's a form of witchcraft witchcraft is meant to control somebody and that's a sin against God So in other words, can't when you're trying to control somebody else.

You're performing witchcraft I don't care what you call it, but you're performing witchcraft and that's again God and God says no you aren't to try to control Anybody else because you know what you can't even control yourself So if you can't control yourself, what makes you think you can control anybody else the idea is to try the best to control yourself in relationship to God and say I'm gonna focus on this relationship I have with God and if I'm doing the right things with God that he'll help me one control myself and he'll spill out and into the lives of others Go ahead.

[@1:19:45](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4785.16) - **Michael**

Yeah, that's what the demons were doing. They were controlling you by possession or a pressure Wanted to say you know who your enemies and trinomies are when you're in pain or a bad situation And they always accuse you, right?

It's sin or disagreeing with them on something right.

[@1:20:03](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4803.76) - **Lee Anne P.**

That's the whole book of Job right there And that's all his friends did when they came to him and we know Job was a good man The Bible told us that but they saw him as being some kind of sin But he wasn't perfect just like we know exactly exactly And I think that's what we were trying to say is if when we recognize the grace of God In our eyes that we're not perfect and God has loved us and done such incredible things for us When we use that as our filter for how we interact with other people it changes the whole dynamic That's like the serenity for when it says courage to change the things I can I Always how my chest because the only thing I can change is me and My reaction to others in the only way I Can change my reaction is to be closer to God.

[@1:20:59](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4859.14) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yes, but that's exactly right. All right. Well, I appreciate the discussion. I think it's been a great discussion. I hope everybody has felt the same way.

I'd like to move into taking any prayer requests before we wrap up here. If anybody has any prayer requests.

[@1:21:11](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4871.7) - **Lee Anne P.**

My mom, Jackie, for her comfort, not so much for healing, just for her acceptance and comfort.

[@1:21:26](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4886.82) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Okay.

[@1:21:28](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4888.1) - **Lee Anne P.**

Thank you.

[@1:21:29](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4889.48) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Certainly, Mike.

[@1:21:31](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4891.54) - **Michael**

The first week of March, I'm going to go in to see a cancer guy again. I'm probably going to have a biopsy.

I fell down and tore my rotator cuff on my left shoulder and they found cancer there in the spine.

did a full body scan and a bone scan. So there's something going on. So they have to see it's probably secondary, but they haven't found any primary.

But just take a biopsy. Just pray for me to leave.

[@1:22:00](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4920.0) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Go, well, certainly, of course. Anybody else, prayer requests?

[@1:22:05](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4925.84) - **Luke**

I am going to see my father next weekend in Florida. So traveling mercies and hope that our time is enriching.

I'm going to bring some books and stuff like that. Max look at all and just read to him. He can't talk at all.

So I'm just bringing books down to read them. So I thought, could you give me a prayer for that, please, thank you.

[@1:22:32](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4952.16) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

His name's Ronald, right?

[@1:22:33](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4953.7) - **Luke**

That's right. Okay.

[@1:22:37](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4957.14) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Anybody else? I will ask for prayer for myself. I don't usually request prayer, but my hips have been very sore this week.

I'm moving stuff out of my office upstairs. We're getting rid of all the old furniture, bought some new furniture to put in there.

so this week, I've been sitting in the dining room on the chairs in here and my hips always tend to

to aggravate me, but because of maybe the sitting on this chair, it's a lot harder. I mean, a lot of pain this week, so please pray for me as well.

Anybody else?

[@1:23:15](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=4995.06) - **Michael**

I know I have arthritis in my hip, so is my friend. know, just sitting in a car now, when you get older, it can be painful.

[@1:23:22](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=5002.24) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yes. Yeah, we'll pray for your hips as well, and Mike, thank you. All right, if there are no other prayer requests, let's go ahead and pray.

Lord Jesus, I thank you again for this Bible study. thank you for the great discussion, the revelation that you part to us, for the anointing that you grant us, the grace, the unmerited favor, the blessings that you allow in our lives.

God help us to recall them, to value them, to hold on to them, to cherish them, God, and to allow them to be the filter through which we communicate with our brothers and sisters and those around us, God, and whether the believers are not, help us, Lord.

to just spill over that grace, words, through our actions. God, thank you for that you're healing God, that you're compassionate God, that you minister to all those who ask of you God.

Lord, right now we lift up Leanne, we ask that you comfort her mother, Jackie. you're the God of all comfort.

Spread your comfort into our life. Lord into her heart, into her spirit, into her physical body, Lord, just shadow her, overlap with comfort in Jesus' name, and Lord, we also lift up Mike.

We ask God that this biopsy go well, Lord, God, that you address the situation. If there's cancer that you eradicate the abnormal cells, God, there's strength that needs to be given to the bones, that you increase the marrow, that you bless and strengthen those bones with proper calcium levels, that God, you touch the muscles and develop them with proper levels of testosterone and whatever else is needed in his body, God.

I thank you for touching his hips and removing all arthritis, all irritation and inflammation in the mime of Jesus.

Lord and lift up Luke that he has decided to go see his father, Ronald. We just pray that that would go well.

you guide him in his travels and keep him safe? And you blessed their time together, God. Just help them connect and bond the Lord, God.

And thank you for giving him this opportunity. Thank you, God, for being in their conversation and in their relationship.

I know Ronald may have a hard time talking, but God, you can lose his tongue to parting words to Luke, Lord, that Lord, somehow, some way they could just bond and connect and enjoy this less moment of being able to be together.

Comfort is father. Be with him, Lord. Move all the pain, all the discomfort. In Jesus' name and Lord, I also pray that you touch my hips and my back and my bones and strengthen me.

I thank you for being faithful. thank you for being kind. I thank you for all my friends here today.

I ask that you bless them and encourage them over the next couple of weeks. to pretend. and keep a hedge protection around them, let them see and observe and knowledge of goodness in Jesus' name.

Amen. The last thing I'd like to share with you guys, and I think I said it for the first time, last time I've developed a biblical financial course that is 30 lessons with some videos and outlines and so forth, that if you're interested in getting to know biblical finances, I'm in a test period right now that I'm looking for people who want to go through the course for free, it's normally about a $600 value.

If you're interested in wanting go for free, you can research what I'm talking about on wisdomwell.guru, wisdomwell.guru, and you can see what I'm offering.

If you're interested, please email me and I will give you a code which you can enter and it'll get you the course for free.

I will give you my email in the chat right now, R-A-J-A-G4 at tds.net. If you're interested in doing the course, you can go through it at your own page.

All I do ask is that you fill out the evaluation forms so I get some feedback and I can make the course as best as possible.

So thank you everyone again for coming. We look forward to seeing you in a couple weeks. Francis, thanks for joining us.

We're just wrapping up. We started about an hour and a half ago. you want to mark your time for two weeks from now, we'll be joining again at nine o'clock in two weeks on Saturday.

What's that? Central and it's central. That's right. Central. apologize. Central. Thank you everyone. We love you.

[@1:27:32](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=5252.88) - **Lee Anne P.**

Thank you.

[@1:27:33](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=5253.74) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Thank you guys.

[@1:27:35](https://fathom.video/share/45THzssVjWWEechfZ46KkGyA71pkx9n5?timestamp=5255.46) - **Lee Anne P.**

Bye bye.