1 Timothy 5:1

Honey & Vinegar

Primary Point: Encouraging others from a place of spirit-controlled love is far more helpful and effective than criticism and attacks.

1. Different meanings of "rebuke"

- Epitimao: To warn with appropriate measure (2 Tim 4:2, Matt 16:22, Luke 19:39, Jude 9)
- Elegcho: To expose, convict, reprove (1 Tim 5:20, 2 Pet 2:16)
- Epiplesso: to strike out (1 Tim 5:1)
- Summary: A rebuke (correction) can be appropriate to point out error. A harsh attack is not helpful and may be sin.

2. Treat each other like family.

- Older men: With respect and gentleness due a father.
- Younger men: As brothers with a common bond in Christ.
- Older women: With respect and gentleness due a mother.
- Younger women: As sisters, with absolute purity.

3. When you must have a hard conversation, let Eph 4:29 and 1 Cor 13 be your guide.

- Summary of Eph 4:29: Build each other up with the blessing of grace.
- Summary of 1 Cor 13: Love is patient ... not arrogant ... not rude ... not easily angered ... always protects, trusts, hopes, and perseveres.

For discussion

- If Eph 4:29 and 1 Cor 13 were guiding verses for conversations, how would they sound different?
- Is there anyone you have spoken to harshly that you need to reapproach with grace?