

# LOVING CORRECTION

*by BRYAN ELLIOTT • from MORE THAN GOLD*

We are not called to pass judgement with an angry heart. To illustrate, rudely calling someone out for a superficial sin dealing with the non-essentials of the faith is probably coming from a critical place and certainly is not gentle or restorative! It is damaging and mean-spirited. However, a compassionate rebuke from a fellow believer dealing with an ungodly mindset, attitude, or behaviour is necessary for us all to grow in our faith and become more like Jesus. We all have blind spots. The wounds of a friend are faithful. Remember, it is God's kindness that leads to repentance!

There is a distinction between seeing sin in someone else's life and confronting it and having a critical, judgemental spirit. We are called to recognise and confront ungodly behaviour in other believers. Scripture encourages us to confront others according to a specific pattern outlined in Matthew 18 and Galatians 6 listed below:

*“If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.”*  
—Matthew 18:15-17

---

*Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves.*  
—Galatians 6:1-3

---

Note the line in Galatians that states we are called to restore that person gently. Paul does not command us to rebuke and leave that person hanging. Rather, we should rebuke and offer steps to restoration and healing.

Recently, I met a young executive who reminded me of myself at his age. His life was a mess, being slowly torn apart by selfishness and self-focus. I shared how I had been right where he was not long ago. I learnt the hard way where that road leads, but he didn't have to. Because I spoke in love and offered solutions for bringing healing to his life and family, he accepted my counsel. Today, he has new godly priorities ordering his life and is being mentored by godly older men. His life is back on track, and he is a new man. That is the fruit of godly correction!

## *ADDITIONAL RESOURCES*

This resource is from Bryan Elliott's book, *More than Gold*. Bryan is the President and co-founder of M46 Ministries along with his daughter, Bryn Elliott. Their mission is to inspire, disciple, and bring hope to the nations.

Find more resources at [m46ministries.com](http://m46ministries.com)

