



I LOVE MY CONNECT

STUDY 16

A Teachable Spirit

Proverbs 17:10, Mark 10:17-22

If the picture of our lives is all about us, where there's no space to see anything else, then we'll never be able to see the person who loves us enough to look us in the eye and tell us the things that maybe we don't want to hear but need to hear.

When we're unteachable we tend to go around in circles and keep facing the same challenges over and over again, beating us up. We can feel like a victim of circumstance and start to feel frustrated. We may feel we are teachable, but when it's tested to the extreme we can really see how teachable we are. Self-righteousness, pride, feeling entitled or like things are different for us, that the normal rules don't apply, will all block people from speaking into our lives. This is truly tragic because it's living below the potential God intends for our lives and we're all on this earth with a God given purpose!

Let's have the right kind of people speaking into our lives too. God people, big spirited people, leaders, pastors, someone you can look up to, someone you care about, someone part of your connect group, etc. Someone who can see further down the road about what God has for your life and the type of things that will allow you to learn, grow, and become all that God has called you to be.

Even under the greatest duress, rather than living our lives getting offended, defensive and insecure, rejecting any kind of input, let's live with a Godly wisdom from which we can grow and change and become all He's called us to be.

CONNECTION AND ACTION *Use these questions to promote conversation and connection.*

- Q:** Are you teachable? How do you know?
- Q:** What factors determine how receptive you are to tough words being spoken to you?
- Q:** What inside you can cause you to resist tough words?
- Q:** Who in your life loves you enough to ask the hard questions? When was the last time it happened?
- Q:** How can a long-term relationship position someone to speak into your life better than a short-term relationship?
- Q:** If you're comfortable doing so, describe a time when someone confronted you on something and it produced a good result?
- Q:** How do you build a marriage where each partner can speak the truth lovingly to each other?

HIGHLIGHTS COMING UP

- Men's Conference is all about causing men to take a stand for righteousness & truth. Please speak with the men in your Connect Group and go to www.mensconference.com to register them today!

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over the
page



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BIBLE AND BELIEF Use these scriptures and questions to develop a Biblical worldview.

Read Mark 10:17-22 – The Rich Young Ruler

- Q:** What positive and negative qualities do you think the young ruler displayed?
- Q:** What qualities did Jesus display towards him?
- Q:** What can we learn from the young ruler about being open to change?
- Q:** What can we learn from Jesus about speaking tough truths to others?

Read 2 Samuel 12:1-13 – David & Nathan

- Q:** What is the background to this passage? What had David done?
- Q:** How did Nathan confront David? Why did he take that approach? What can we learn from how he did it?
- Q:** How did David respond? What does that tell us about David? What can we learn from his example?

Read Proverbs 17:10, Prov 27:17, Eph 4:15

- Q:** Even though God can speak to us directly by His Word and Spirit, why does He rely on other people to speak truth to us to change us?

GROWING LEADERSHIP Use these questions to help people in your group grow as leaders.

- Q:** Who is speaking into your leadership?
- Q:** What are you doing to develop those kinds of relationships?
- Q:** In your development as a leader, describe a time when someone spoke tough words into your leadership. What impact did it have?
- Q:** As a leader, how well do you go with confrontation?
- Q:** What clues do you have for being able to deliver tough words to someone in a way that increases the likelihood of them being received?

Check Up

Check in with leaders in your group on how they're going with:

- Starting new connect groups over the rest of the year.
- Getting people connected to their Next Step.

PRAY TOGETHER

- New Connect Group Leaders
- Decisions for Jesus in our Services
- Ps Brian & Bobbie Houston

PASTORAL CARE

- We have a pastoral care team at church to walk alongside people in your group who may be going through a tough time
- Please contact the church office Sydney 02 8853 5353 or Brisbane 07 3422 8500 to let us know of anybody in your group (with their permission) who have sickness, death of a loved one, marriage challenges, surgeries.

NATION BUILDERS – Causes we are supporting through Nation Builders:

1. **Church Planting** – Supporting a new generation of dynamic leaders to plant & build churches that will serve communities, influence cities and ultimately impact nations. Including: Amsterdam, Japan, Moscow, Paris, Stockholm, Copenhagen and Hillsong Germany.
2. **Gospel Missions** – Supporting missions locally & others that are furthering the Gospel all around the world. Including: Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF), Hillsong TV and overseas workers in SE Asia.

We support a number of overseas workers in projects throughout south east Asia. One example is Thailand where legends Erik and Marianna Klar have been based as missionaries since 1992. Some of their work includes:

- The River Centre which has been transformed from a Brothel into a thriving Church and community training centre.
- Church planting and community development in the unreached northern Hills tribes near the border with Burma. 100's have come to Christ through arrange of projects including water and toilet ministry!
- Reaching out into a southern city to rescue girls who are being trafficked

