

“THINKABOUTIT” THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Monday; May 19, 2008

What happens when someone corrects us? If you are like me, and someone offers a bit of constructive criticism, the reactions range from being defensive, to placing blame on others, to launching counter attacks, to pouting and avoiding our critics. Frankly, few of us take admonition very well.

The shame of it is that in correction, we find real fulfillment. People who genuinely care about us and offer us teaching do us a favor; but, only if we are willing to respond rather than react. By responding to the observations (and making the changes warranted in their instruction) we become better. By emotionally reacting to a perceived attack, we become embittered and actually go backwards in our personal development.

Centuries ago, a wise man cautioned, “He who corrects a scoffer gets dishonor for himself, and he who reproves a wicked man gets insults for himself.” (Proverbs 9:7). Where do we see ourselves when correction is offered – in other words, are we wise or foolish?

Think about it! For the Madison Avenue Church of Christ; this is Charlie Wharton.