

***Intro:***

Main Point of Text: Citizens of a sacred society love one another enough not to leave them unchallenged in sinful living.

Psalm 141:5; Titus 1:13; Prov. 6:23.

Sermon Point: *It is Loving to Rebuke.*

***Move 1: When you rebuke people for their sins, you show that you are their faithful friend.***

“thou shalt in any wise rebuke”, lit., “rebuke, you rebuke” (Heb. emphasis, like Ex. 23:4, 5 “surely”). Those who review, redirect you directly and repeatedly are friends: “Neighbor” is “associate, comrade”; a friend. Prov. 25:9. Prov. 27:5-6: *Open rebuke is better than secret love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.*

***Move 2: When you rebuke people for their sins, you show that you are their true family.***

To rebuke is to love, the opposite of “Thou shalt not hate”, which begins in the “heart”. Here, a hateful heart sins by omission. It callously “disowns” family. Matt. 18:15: ... *if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.* Luke 17:3: ... *If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him:* the issue, would rather bear a grudge (vs. 18, to “keep on being angry”). ...*he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness* ... Hatred breaks the 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment: 1 John 2:11; 3:15.

***Move 3: When you won't rebuke people for their sins, you show that you don't value their lives.***

“and not suffer sin upon him”. Rom. 6:23. Sin carries guilt and will bear its consequences: misery, punishment. Unrepentant sinners get hell on earth, and die in hell. Don't bear blame: Ezek. 2:5; 3:18; 33:6; Prov. 24:11-12. Jesus loves you enough to rebuke you of your sins: *As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.* (Rev. 3:19) Repentance leads to life (Acts. 11:18). Love seeks to save people from their sins, rebuking to rescue them: 2 Tim. 2:25-26; James 5:19-20; Jude 21-23.

***Conclusion:***

*It is Loving to Rebuke.*