

I. The necessity of listening (Prov 14:12; 12:15; 15:31; 29:1)

II. The heart of listening (Prov 18:2; 9:8; 27:5–6; 17:10)

III. The gospel gives us ears to hear

Application Questions

- How do you usually respond when rebuked?
- Do you believe that people who rebuke you love you?
- Do you come to God's word expecting his loving rebuke?
- What are the "sacred cows" in your life—areas of unteachability or pride where people cannot confront you?
- How does Jesus free you to receive rebuke?

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14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man,
but its end is the way to death.

12:15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes,
but a wise man listens to advice.

15:31 The ear that listens to life-giving reproof
will dwell among the wise.

29:1 He who is often reproved, yet stiffens his neck,
will suddenly be broken beyond healing.

18:2 A fool takes no pleasure in understanding,
but only in expressing his opinion.

9:8 Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you;
reprove a wise man, and he will love you.

27:5–6 Better is open rebuke
than hidden love.
Faithful are the wounds of a friend;
profuse are the kisses of an enemy.

17:10 A rebuke goes deeper into a man of understanding
than a hundred blows into a fool.

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