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## Responding to Criticism and Opposition

### Description

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Responding to criticism and opposition is a difficult task, especially when it comes from those who are close to us. As Christians, we are called to respond to criticism and opposition with grace and humility. We must remember that our ultimate goal is to glorify God and to bring Him glory in all that we do.

The Bible is full of examples of how to respond to criticism and opposition. In Proverbs 15:1, it says, “A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.” This verse reminds us that our response to criticism and opposition should be gentle and kind. We should not respond in anger or with harsh words.

In Matthew 5:44, Jesus says, “But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.” This verse reminds us that we should respond to criticism and opposition with love and compassion. We should not respond with hatred or bitterness.

In 1 Peter 3:15, it says, “But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.” This verse reminds us that we should respond to criticism and opposition with grace and truth. We should not respond with fear or doubt.

In Philippians 4:5, it says, “Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.” This verse reminds us that we should respond to criticism and opposition with gentleness and humility. We should not respond with pride or arrogance.

**Salvation Prayers** : Dear Lord Jesus, I come to you today acknowledging my need for salvation. I confess that I have sinned and fallen short of your glory. But I believe that you died for my sins and rose again. I ask that you come into my heart and be my Lord. I commit to following you and living for you every day. Thank you for your love and for the gift of eternal life. In your name I pray, Amen.  
[Amen](#)

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Example: Joy, Love, 1 John 1:3

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In addition to responding to criticism and opposition with grace and humility, we must also remember to pray for those who are criticizing and opposing us. We must remember that God is in control and that He will work all things out for our good. We must also remember to forgive those who have wronged us and to show them grace and mercy.

### Quiz

1. What does Proverbs 15:1 say about responding to criticism and opposition?
  - A. Respond with anger and harsh words
  - B. Respond with gentleness and kindness
  - C. Respond with hatred and bitterness
  - D. Respond with fear and doubt
2. What does Matthew 5:44 say about responding to criticism and opposition?
  - A. Respond with love and compassion
  - B. Respond with anger and harsh words
  - C. Respond with hatred and bitterness
  - D. Respond with fear and doubt
3. What does 1 Peter 3:15 say about responding to criticism and opposition?
  - A. Respond with gentleness and humility
  - B. Respond with love and compassion
  - C. Respond with anger and harsh words
  - D. Respond with grace and truth
4. What does Philippians 4:5 say about responding to criticism and opposition?
  - A. Respond with gentleness and humility

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- B. Respond with love and compassion
  - C. Respond with pride and arrogance
  - D. Respond with grace and truth

5. What should we remember to do when responding to criticism and opposition?

- A. Pray for those who are criticizing and opposing us
- B. Respond with anger and harsh words
- C. Respond with hatred and bitterness
- D. Respond with pride and arrogance

**Rededication Prayers** : Dear Lord Jesus, I come to you today with a heart of repentance. I confess that I have strayed from your path and have not been living according to your will. But I am here to rededicate myself to you and to make a commitment to follow you with all my heart. I ask for your forgiveness and for the strength and guidance to walk in your ways. I thank you for your love, grace, and mercy. I give you my all, my heart, my mind, my soul, and my strength, I trust in you and I pray this in Jesus' name, Amen. [Amen](#)

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### Discussion Questions

1. What does the Bible say about responding to criticism and opposition?
2. How can we respond to criticism and opposition with grace and humility?
3. What should we remember to do when responding to criticism and opposition?
4. How can we show grace and mercy to those who have wronged us?
5. How can we glorify God in our response to criticism and opposition?

### FAQs

Q: What does Proverbs 15:1 say about responding to criticism and opposition?

A: Proverbs 15:1 says, “A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.” This verse reminds us that our response to criticism and opposition should be gentle and kind. We should not respond in anger or with harsh words.

Q: What does Matthew 5:44 say about responding to criticism and opposition?

A: Matthew 5:44 says, “But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.” This verse reminds us that we should respond to criticism and opposition with love and compassion. We should not respond with hatred or bitterness.

Q: What does 1 Peter 3:15 say about responding to criticism and opposition?

A: 1 Peter 3:15 says, “But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.” This verse reminds us that we should respond to criticism and opposition with grace and truth. We should not respond with fear or doubt.

Q: What does Philippians 4:5 say about responding to criticism and opposition?

A: Philippians 4:5 says, “Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.” This verse reminds us that we should respond to criticism and opposition with gentleness and humility. We should not respond with pride or arrogance.

Q: What should we remember to do when responding to criticism and opposition?

A: We should remember to pray for those who are criticizing and opposing us. We should also remember to forgive those who have wronged us and to show them grace and mercy.

Answers to the Quiz:

1. B
2. A
3. D
4. A

5. A

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