



Loving Rebuke

You shall not hate your brother in your heart. You shall surely rebuke your neighbor, and not bear sin because of him. You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I *am* the Lord. Leviticus 19:17–18



Rev. Tracy McConnell

By starting with Moses' premise in Leviticus 19:17-18—that you love your neighbor by rebuking them when they sin against you, and you hate your neighbor by holding on to your anger, because holding on to your anger makes you sin against them by taking vengeance—the rest of the Bible's teaching on conflict and sin falls into place within these two categories. They either explain what loving rebuke looks like or what hateful vengeance looks like. Some of these teachings are easy to find, while others require more effort. Some are key concepts, while others expound and illustrate those concepts.

Here are some of Jesus' key teachings about loving rebuke, conflict, and sin:

- The first is from Mat. 5:9, where Jesus reaffirmed the importance of loving rebuke by identifying making peace as one of the eight essential qualities of a kingdom life.
- Next, in Mat. 5:43-48, Jesus expanded the command to love your neighbor within conflict to include loving your enemies through praying for and greeting them.
- In Mat. 6:12,14-15, Jesus introduced forgiveness as an essential part of the loving rebuke process and revealed that hating through unforgiveness hinders your own forgiveness.
- In Mat. 7:1-5, Jesus added self-evaluation to the process of reasoning frankly while rebuking your neighbor to prevent prejudging, failing to self-evaluate for sin, minimizing the significance of personal sin, and confronting those who are spiritually unreceptive or dangerous.
- Then, in Mat. 18:15-22, Jesus expanded the process of loving rebuke by adding the need to confront a person privately, identifying restoration as a byproduct of repentance, defining the process for bringing the church into a sin conflict to help resolve it, and introducing personal and corporate prayer as a tool in conflict.

- Finally, in Luke 17:3–4, Jesus made repentance a condition for forgiveness in the rebuking process, while adding the need to extend forgiveness liberally to the offender.

Paul added several more key teachings in his epistles:

- Paul defined true repentance in 2 Cor. 7:11 as an appropriate spiritual and emotional response to the sin committed and doing the necessary work to make it right.
- In Rom. 12:16-22, Paul acknowledged the fact that not all conflicts can be resolved and added the tool of giving a sin over to God's wrath through prayer as an alternative to the two options of loving by rebuking or hating by not rebuking. Then he validated its effectiveness because it allows you to show love by carrying out true acts of kindness defined by Solomon in Prov. 25:21–22, which then serves as proof that the tool of giving an offense over to God's wrath has been executed properly.
- Next, in Eph. 4:15, Paul expanded the concept of rebuking your neighbor as a loving act by adding the need to rebuke in a loving way, and then he identified the goal of confrontation as helping both the confronter and the confronted grow up in Christ.
- Paul declared the appropriateness of the emotion of anger within the context of conflict in Eph. 4:26 and then, in verse 27, identified Satan's foothold as the reason unforgiveness always turns into sin.
- Finally, in Eph. 4:30-31, Paul described the six sinful ways people carry out vengeance when they hold on to their anger and then listed kindness, tenderheartedness, and forgiving others as God forgives you as essential parts of a loving rebuke.

While this list is by no means complete, it provides a basic structure for a balanced system of loving rebuke.

RECIPES

Hawaiian Ham and Cheese Sliders

Ingredients

3/4 cup melted Butter
1 tbsp Dijon Mustard
1 tsp Worcestershire Sauce
1 tsp Brown Sugar
1 tbsp Poppy Seeds
2 tsp Dried Minced Onion
12 King's Hawaiian Dinner Rolls
9 oz Thin sliced Deli Ham
8 oz Thin sliced Swiss Cheese

Directions

Preheat oven to 350. Grease a 9×13-inch baking dish.

Combine butter, mustard, Worcestershire sauce, brown sugar, poppy seeds, and dried onion. Slice the rolls to make sandwiches. Remove tops and set aside. Place the bottom pieces into the prepared baking dish. Layer the ham onto the rolls. Top the ham with the Swiss cheese. Place the tops of the rolls onto the sandwiches. Brush or pour the liquid mixture evenly over the rolls.

Bake 20 minutes or until the rolls are lightly browned and cheese has melted. Separate into individual sandwiches to serve.

Back to School Ideas

Back-to-School Shopping: Encourage kids to make shopping lists and budget plans. This can be an excellent opportunity to teach them about money management.

School Organization Day: Create a designated homework area where everyone can work on their studies. Make it comfortable and inspiring.

Meal Prep and Planning: Involve the entire family in meal planning and preparation. Discuss healthy lunch and snack options for school.

Morning Routine Practice: Start practicing your school morning routine a week or so before school begins. Set alarms, pack lunches, and time how long it takes to get ready.

Family Meeting Time: Encourage open communication so everyone can share their concerns and successes

<https://mommyshravmusings.com/15-fun-labor-day-activities-for-families/>

Leave a legacy for your family & favorite ministries. When planning a legacy, give Terry L. Balko a call at 404-229-1645 or email Mr. Balko for forms and details at terrylbalko@gmail.com. **Don't let your hard earned life-savings go into a probate bureaucracy! NOT PLANNING is a plan, but it is NOT a very good plan!**

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Bible Related Ministries Newsletter

Fernando Garza, Interim Director



2026

*"Be still and know that I am God; I
will be exalted among the heathen, I
will be exalted in the earth"*

Psalms 46:10

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BRM Interims and Associates Engaged in Ministry:

>Rev. Steve Barack, BRM Associate – Interim Pastor Village Baptist Church, Lake Village, IN

>Dr. Al Carson, Sr., BRM Associate – Sr. Pastor of Edwards Corners Bible Church, Marcellus, MI

>Dr. Joe Stewart, BRM Associate – Sr. Pastor of Grace Bible Church, Dallas City, IL

>Rev. Darwyn Hassert, BRM Associate – Smyrna Bible Church (and vicinity), MI,

preaches and assists as needed in nearby areas
>Rev. Don Zimmerman, Completed his interim assignment

>Rev. Jim Vyleta, Interim Pastor of Appleton Community Evangelical Free Church, Appleton, WI

>Rev. Tracy B McConnell, BRM Associate – Newsletter Publication

The History of Labor Day

Machinist Matthew Maguire proposed the holiday in 1882 while serving as secretary of the Central Labor Union in New York. Later that year, the first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, and organized by the Central Labor Union.

Oregon was the first state to pass a law recognizing Labor Day on February 21, 1887, with four more states, Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York, passing laws that same year. By 1894, 23 more states had adopted the holiday. President Grover Cleveland signed a law on June 28, 1894, making the first Monday in September a national holiday.

<https://beta.dol.gov/about/history/history-labor-day>

BRM Field Report #9

August was a very active month in the Midwest. On August 11th, major storms struck from Iowa through Eastern Kentucky. Hurricane-force winds knocked out power, damaged buildings, and caused flooding. Many churches were negatively impacted, including Portage Bible Church in Portage, Indiana, which suffered flooding in the church fellowship hall due to the lack of power.

The storm also knocked out the power and phones at the BRM office for three and a half days. Since there may be delays in completing some administrative tasks, Dolores would very much appreciate your patience as she works to catch up!

Rev. Don Zimmerman, who has served as interim pastor at Western Springs Baptist Church in Western Springs, IL, for three and a half years, handed off the baton to Pastor John Palmieri in August. Thank you, Don, for your faithful ministry!

One of our BRM Pastors will be speaking at Portage Bible Church in Portage, Indiana, on September 9th. The service is at 10:30. If you're close, please come and support his ministry!

BRM is here for you! As we wait on God to provide BRM with a new Executive Director, Fernando Garza (BRM Interim Director), along with Dolores and the BRM Associates, are working together to fulfill BRM's mission. The phone lines are open and manned. Don't hesitate to call with any questions, needs, concerns, or issues.

Please continue to pray for BRM:

1. For God to provide a new Executive Director
2. For God's wisdom and guidance for the BRM Board