

Learning from the Experience of Others

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Broadcast Dates: 11/6/23-11/7/23

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Scripture References:

- Proverbs 18:15, *NIV*
- Proverbs 15:22, *ESV*
- Proverbs 18:17, *ESV*

Summary:

It's important for Christians to mature not only spiritually, but also emotionally; if we fail to control our emotions, they can become a powerful force that we must deal with when we are attacked by negativity. Emotionally mature people have the wisdom to learn from others' mistakes and experiences; they actively seek out multiple points of view to inform and give perspective to their own point of view. They aren't threatened by opposing viewpoints; neither are they afraid to question their own convictions. The world is full of people with differing opinions; being open-minded enough to let them teach us something we didn't know before strengthens and grows us.

Notes:

1. A willingness to consider life from others' viewpoints, not just our own, matures us. A sign of emotional maturity is when we look to learn and grow from every opportunity and every experience.
2. Emotionally mature people move away from the "why did this happen to me?" mentality and toward the "what can I learn from this?" mindset.
3. Our own opinion can seem right until we have a conversation with someone else that leads us to examine what we think and why we think it.
4. Christians can become "islands to themselves." An isolated way of thinking keeps us narrow-minded and increases the possibility of us being deceived; by comparison, seeking others' advice brings us closer to God's plan for our lives.
5. Accepting counsel from other Christians helps us make better, more informed decisions.

Category: spiritual growth

Keywords: learning, experience, mature, emotionally, grow, emotions, wisdom, learn