

# Notes for Real Talk Part 2 - Felix Quinones

What is something you want from your relationships?

- Spouse: love, commitment, loyalty
- Parents: care, nurture, longevity
- Friends: good time, shared interests, affirmation
- Church/Small Group: prayer, support, encouragement

## Proverbs 27:5-6

Better an **open reprimand** (*rebuke*) than concealed love. <sup>6</sup> **The wounds of a friend are trustworthy**, but the kisses of an enemy are excessive.

Open reprimand/rebuke = Wounds from a friend

**Rebuke:** Candid **correction and concern for the good** of the other person.

- Rebuke is something **we should want more from** those who claim to love us. → **Care of a true friend.**
- Rebuke is something **we should look to give more** to those we claim to love. → **Commitment of a true friend.**

## Proverbs 27:5-6

Better an open reprimand (*rebuke*) than **concealed love**. <sup>6</sup> The wounds of a friend are trustworthy, **but the kisses of an enemy are excessive.**

Concealed love/kisses of an enemy = failure to provide open, honest correction when necessary

*"These kinds of wounds are a danger to our sin. Your soul needs friends who are willing to risk wounding your pride in the moment for the long-term good of your soul."*

**Most people land on one of two modes:**

- **TRUTH without LOVE** **Mode:** fighting, fixing, confronting, demanding, grenade dropping
- **LOVE without TRUTH** **Mode:** avoid, keep the peace, stay quiet, status quo

### **Ephesians 4:15-16**

But speaking the truth in love, let us grow in every way into him who is the head—Christ. <sup>16</sup> From him the whole body, fitted and knit together by every supporting ligament, promotes the growth of the body for building itself up in love by the proper working of each individual part.

### **WHY IS THIS SO CHALLENGING?**

- Relationships get trapped in “casual and superficial” because it's easier.
- Culturally, we **value politeness and tolerance** over truth, and ultimately over love.

### **Leviticus 19:17-18**

“Do not harbor hatred against your brother. **Rebuke your neighbor directly.** and you will not incur guilt because of him. <sup>18</sup> Do not take revenge or bear a grudge against members of your community, but **love your neighbor as yourself; I am the Lord.**

- **Fear of people** (idolatry) and a **lack of understanding** of the Gospel; we live FROM God's approval in Christ.

### **Galatians 1:10**

For am I now trying to persuade people, or God? Or am I striving to please people? **If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.**

- **Misunderstanding** of God's will & purpose.

### **What if God has a different plan?**

**Change** is God's agenda for us.

### **Colossians 3:12-14**

Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and dearly loved, put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, <sup>13</sup> **bearing with one another** and **forgiving one another if anyone has a grievance against another. Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you are also to forgive.** <sup>14</sup> Above all, put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

God's primary goal is not to change our situations and relationships so that we can be happy, but to change us through our situations and relationships so that we will be holy.

God's agenda for you, me, and us is to help each other grow and mature spiritually → **become Christ-like.**

### **HOW DO WE GET THERE?**

1) Accept the **agenda of God.**

### **2 Peter 1:3-4**

His divine power has given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. By these he has given us very great and precious promises, **so that through them you may share in the divine nature**, escaping the corruption that is in the world because of evil desire.

True discipleship **refuses to condemn**, but also **refuses to condone**.

2) Accept the **methods of God.**

### **Hebrews 10:24-25**

And let us consider one another in order to provoke love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.

3) Accept that a major life pattern will be **forgiveness and repentance.**

## **WHERE DOES THIS COME FROM?**

**Christ** - the Gospel

### **Titus 2:14**

He gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.