

# Irresistible Faith

## Becoming the Kind of Christian the World Can't Resist

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**Main Idea ||** Cultivation of our irresistible faith requires from us a level of humility that invites others to resist us whenever we get out of step with the gospel. .

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**Proverbs 27:6 (NLT)** <sup>6</sup>*Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy.*

Another aspect of healthy growth that we always need, but never want: **Correction**

- **Matthew 18:15–17 (NLT)** <sup>15</sup>*If another believer sins against you, go privately and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back. <sup>16</sup>But if you are unsuccessful, take one or two others with you and go back again, so that everything you say may be confirmed by two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If the person still refuses to listen, take your case to the church. Then if he or she won't accept the church's decision, treat that person as a pagan or a corrupt tax collector.*
- **Galatians 6:1–2 (NLT)** <sup>1</sup>*Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself. <sup>2</sup>Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ.*
- **Psalms 141:5 (NLT)** <sup>5</sup>*Let the godly strike me! It will be a **kindness**! If they correct me, it is **soothing medicine**. Don't let me refuse it.*

To love someone means to sometimes have to **confront** someone.

**Galatians 6:1–2 (NLT)** <sup>1</sup>*Dear brothers and sisters, if **another believer** is **overcome** by some sin, you who are **godly** should **gently and humbly help** that person back onto the **right path**. And **be careful** not to fall into the same **temptation** yourself. <sup>2</sup>**Share** each other's burdens,...*

- Ex Paul confronts Peter publicly for something "not in line with the gospel" : **Legalism**

**Galatians 2:11–14 (NLT)**

<sup>14</sup>*When I saw that they were not following the truth of the gospel message, I said to Peter in front of all the others, ...*

## Reasons we avoid correction:

1. fear of negative reaction.
2. fear of being hypocritical.
3. fear of being judged.

The goal of correction in our true Christian community is an irresistible **transformation**.

***Ephesian 5:7 (ESV)** ..."in splendor, without **spot** or **wrinkle** or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish".*

### CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION

1. Author Scott Sauls states that most of us don't value confrontational truth-telling. Why do you think that's true?
2. Sometimes we avoid **confrontation** because we're afraid of **negative reactions, being hypocritical or being judged**. Which of those might keep you from practicing "loving confrontation" in your life?
3. Author Scott Sauls says that **encouraging words that build up** and **corrective words that steer away from sin** are both essential. When we willingly do **both** of these, our relationships, families and church communities become stronger – and more irresistible. Can you think of an important relationship in your life that has a balance between the two?
4. If you can answer this and in your experience, in what way(s) has Jesus carefully corrected you with a "scalpel" instead of a "sword"?