

# Rise & Build:

Reflections from the Joseph Story

## When You're Criticized...

Few (if any) of us enjoy being criticized, but criticism sometimes comes our way. Sometimes it's deserved. Sometimes it's not.



- Joseph's story in Scripture begins with criticism from his brothers ([Gen 37:1-8](#)) and his father ([Gen 37:9-11](#)).
- Years later, even when Joseph had graciously and abundantly provided for his brothers and their families in the midst of a famine, his brothers were skeptical that Joseph had their best interest in mind ([Gen 50:15-21](#)).
- Who else can you think of in Scripture that knew what it was to be criticized? Taking it a step further...

**Who handled criticism well?**

**Who didn't handle criticism well?**



**Making it personal, how should we handle criticism as disciples of Jesus?** What do we need to remember when criticism—deserved or not—comes our way?

1. Be quick to \_\_\_\_\_. ([James 1:19a](#))
2. Be slow to \_\_\_\_\_. ([James 1:19b](#))
3. Be slow to become \_\_\_\_\_. ([James 1:19c-20](#))
4. Don't rail \_\_\_\_\_. ([1 Pet 2:23](#))
5. Give a \_\_\_\_\_ response. ([Prov 15:1](#))
6. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ yourself too quickly. ([Prov 18:13](#))
7. Humbly evaluate what might be \_\_\_\_\_ in the critique, even if it's given in a \_\_\_\_\_ way. ([Prov 17:10](#))
8. Remember the fact that you have \_\_\_\_\_ spots. ([Psa 19:12-14](#))
9. Ask \_\_\_\_\_ for their honest opinion. ([Prov 28:26](#))
10. \_\_\_\_\_ about the criticism. ([Psa 139:23-24](#))
11. Remember the \_\_\_\_\_. ([1 Pet 2:21-25](#))
12. Consider the \_\_\_\_\_. ([Matt 23:27-28](#); [James 4:1-4](#))