

WHEN SHIMEI COMES CALLING! 2 SAM. 16:5-14

Characteristics of a pastor:

- Mind of a scholar
- Heart of a child
- Hide of a rhinoceros

What should we learn?

1. Criticism hurts - a lot!

Stones

Dust

& words!

2 Samuel 16:5 And when king David came to Bahurim, behold, thence came out a man of the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei, the son of Gera: **he came forth, and cursed still as he came.**

2 Samuel 16:6 And he cast stones at David, **and** at all the servants of king David: **and** all the people **and** all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left. **2 Samuel 16:7** And thus said Shimei **when he cursed, Come out, come out, thou bloody man, and thou man of Belial:**

2 Samuel 16:13 And as David and his men went by the way, Shimei went along on the hill's side over against him, **and cursed as he went, and threw stones at him, and cast dust.**

This hurts the most when you are in a bad place.

2. Criticism is **rarely** about what it's really about!

2 Samuel 16:5 And when king David came to Bahurim, **behold, thence came out a man of the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei,** the son of Gera: he came forth, and cursed still as he came.

2 Samuel 16:8 The LORD hath returned upon thee all the blood **of the house of Saul**, in whose stead thou hast reigned; and the LORD hath delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom thy son: and, behold, thou art taken in thy mischief, because thou art a bloody man.

This is really about power, position & who should "really" reign/rule.

Kinds:

- Blowing off steam:
- Putting others down to look good:
- Destructive, malicious criticism:

3. Criticism **often** happens where you are **least** guilty!

2 Samuel 16:7 And thus said Shimei when he cursed, Come out, come out, thou bloody man, and thou man of Belial: **2 Samuel 16:8** The LORD hath returned upon thee all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose stead thou hast reigned; and the LORD hath delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom thy son: and, behold, thou art taken in thy mischief, **because thou art a bloody man.**

2 Samuel 16:11 And David said to Abishai, and to all his servants, Behold, my son, which came forth of my bowels, seeketh my life: how much more now may this Benjamite do it? let him alone, and let him curse; for the LORD hath bidden him.

2 Samuel 16:13 And as David and his men went by the way, Shimei went along on the hill's side over against him, and cursed as he went, and threw stones at him, and cast dust.

What do we know about David?

- David did everything not to kill Saul
- David wouldn't take the throne by a coup / revolt
- David refused to kill Saul when he had the chance (2x)!
- David refused to kill Saul's family
- David was **furious** when Abner & Ishbosheth were murdered

David was guilty of many things just not this

4. Criticism demands a response...or does it?

2 Samuel 16:9 Then said Abishai the son of Zeruiah unto the king, **Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? let me go over, I pray thee, and take off his head.**

2 Samuel 16:10 And the king said, What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah? so let him curse, because the LORD hath said unto him, Curse David. Who shall then say, Wherefore hast thou done so?

2 Samuel 16:11 And David said to Abishai, and to all his servants, Behold, my son, which came forth of my bowels, seeketh my life: **how much more now may this Benjamite do it...?**

Thoughts:

- It doesn't require "justice"
- It might require an explanation → facts / factual information
- It might also require some soul-searching

Is this true? Partially true? Not true at all / false?

- It might require confession to God &... whomever

5. Criticism **must** be left with the Lord

2 Samuel 16:11 And David said to Abishai, and to all his servants, Behold, my son, which came forth of my bowels, seeketh my life: how much more now may this Benjamite do it? let him alone, and let him curse; **for the LORD hath bidden him.** **2 Samuel 16:12** **It may be that the LORD will look on mine affliction, and that the LORD will requite me good for his cursing this day.**

2 Samuel 16:13 And as David and his men went by the way, Shimei went along on the hill's side over against him, and cursed as he went, and threw stones at him, and cast dust.

2 Samuel 16:14 And the king, and all the people that were with him, came weary, and refreshed themselves there.