



Criticism:

the expression of disapproval of someone or something based on perceived faults or mistakes.



What you say: "Bowser, bad, bad dog. Haven't I told you before not to do this? Bad Dog Bowser."

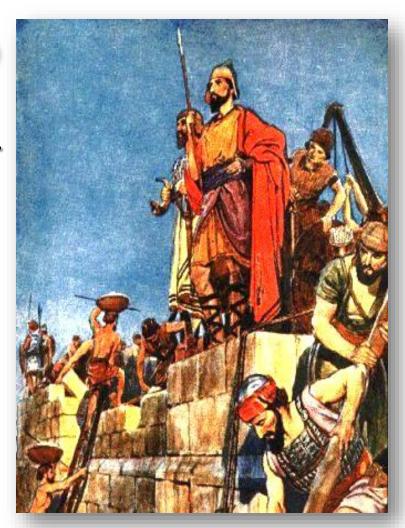
What he hears: "Bowser.. Blah, blah, blah, Bowser."

Fact: Everybody gets criticized.

Nehemiah had Critics.

Sanballet: Moabite
Governor of Samaria ISBE
(Neh 4:2) Feeble Jews
Unrealistic builders
Weakened stones

Tobiah: <u>Ammonite</u> (Neh 4:3) 'If fox should jump— he'd break it'



Jesus had Critics

(John 8:48) [Jews said] "You are a Samaritan and have a demon."

John 9:24 [Pharisees] "We know that this man is a sinner!"

Mat 11:19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Behold, a gluttonous man and a drunkard..."

Mat 11:18 John [Baptist] came neither eating nor drinking & they say, 'He has a demon."



Elijah was called a "Trouble maker" by Ahab (1 Ki 18:17)



by Shimei (2 Sam 18:7-12)



#1: Expect Criticism.

Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you, for that is how [they] treated the false prophets. (Luke 6:26)



Don't let it blow you away!

Never be surprised by criticism.

Weigh it and keep moving forward. Life is about change.

Jer 15:10 I have not lent.. Yet *Everyone curses me*. Jer 12:6 Even your brothers... *cry aloud after you*.

Dealing with Criticism #2: Consider the Source.



- 1. Is it a Trusted Friend?
 Prov 27:6 "Faithful are
 the wounds of a friend."
 Gal 4:16 Telling you truth
- 2. Is it *General Negativity*? (Eccl 7:21-22) "Do not take
- seriously all words which spoken, many times..."
- 3. One with own agenda? (Mat 10:16; John 11:48) (Sanballat. Crucified prisoner. Elymus. Felix.)
- 4. Or **Your** Negative attitude? (Prv 15:13) Sad.. Be Loving & Truthful with yourself (Eph 4:15)

Dealing with Criticism #3: Pray about it.

Neh 4:4f "Hear, O our God, how we are despised. They have demoralized the builders."

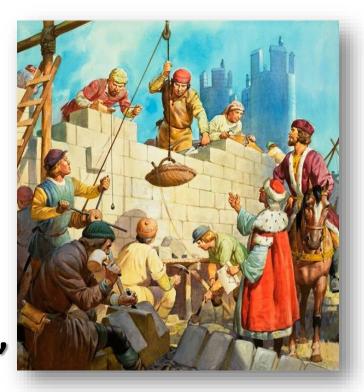
2 Sam 16:7 Shimei ... cursed,
"Get out, get out, you man of bloodshed, and worthless fellow! v13 as he went, he cursed and cast stones and threw dust at [David].

2 Sam 16:11 "Let him alone and let him *curse*... v12 Perhaps the Lord will look on my affliction & <u>return good to me instead of his cursing</u> this day."

Dealing with Criticism #4: Keep on Pursuing Your Goal.

Neh 4:6 So we built the wall and the whole wall was joined together to half its height, for the people had a mind to work.

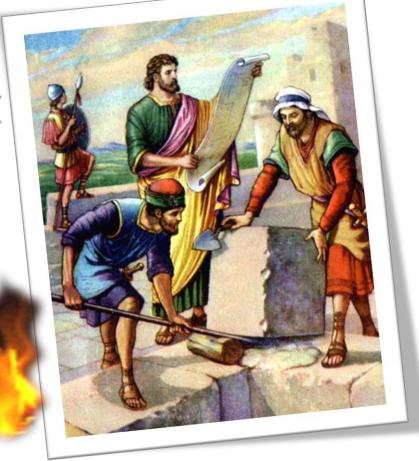
Neh 6:2 Sanballat ...sent a message, saying, "Come, let us meet together in the plain"



v3 So I sent messengers to them, saying, "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down."

Neh 4:16 "Half of my servants carried on the work while half of them held the spears, the shields, the bows."

Don't spend all your time putting out fires or you'll never reach your goal.



Address the obstacle and keep moving forward.





OUT GOE

THE GOAL FOR THE
PRIZE OF THE
UPWARD CALL
OF GOD IN
CHRIST JESUS.

