

Elder Bobby Willis



“Refusing Reproof”

Ever tried to put one of those little plastic model cars together that kids (and adults) used to do as a hobby in the 60’s and 70’s in place of computer and I Phone time? They came in a small box with all the pieces stuck together and you had to glue everything in the right place and even paint it if you wanted. The box even included a sheet or two of instruction so you would know when and where to put each piece. If you didn’t follow instructions in putting the car together, you would have pieces left over (just like I did).

Life hasn’t really changed much from when I was young. There are still instructions we need to follow in order to put our lives together in the proper order so as to not leave out an important piece. However, many of God’s children do not want to follow the instructions which God has given. Solomon shared a bit of wisdom about this in Proverbs 10:17, **“He is in the way of life that keepeth instruction: but he that refuseth reproof erreth.”** When we don’t follow God’s instruction, we tend to lose our way in life and find ourselves floundering about. It’s like a ship on the sea without an anchor as it is tossed to and fro.

Notice the second part of this proverb, **“he that refuseth reproof erreth.”** Reproof comes when we, as God’s children, refuse to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ. If we are walking in the paths of righteousness as we are led by our Lord, then we have no need for reproof. Reproof comes when we are in error and need to be back in the proper way of keeping His instructions.

One example is in our worship of our Saviour; **“...Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is;...”** (Hebrews 10:25). We all at times don’t follow the Lord’s instructions and then wonder why certain pieces of our lives don’t fit in the puzzle. It could be we have our priorities wrong and we are not putting the right pieces in the right places.

Going to church every once in awhile is better than not going at all but it is not what the Lord has commanded. We can and will find time to do whatever we want

to do. If you are staying home and not attending church on a regular basis, then don't be surprised that certain pieces of your life are in the wrong place, or, are missing completely.

Don't be one of those who refuses reproof. Be in the Lord's house when the doors open. All of your problems won't disappear, but you will find help by hearing the gospel preached and by having the fellowship of God's people who are willing to be there for you. So, seek Godly instruction and be willing to face reproof so you can avoid as much error as possible. **“Think About It!”**