



**Fellowship of Companies for Christ International**  
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**Fellowship of Companies for Christ  
Greater Hartford Chapter  
Mitchell's Coffee House  
November 4, 2009**

- Opening prayer
- Introductions
- Praise reports
- Today's topic: ***The Crucible of Criticism***



***Matthew 21:15 (KJV): "And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, saying, Hosanna to the son of David; they were sore displeased." Isaiah 5:3 (KJV): "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief, and we hid as it were our faces from him and we esteemed him not."***

As a business owner, leader, and employer, very few people walk in your shoes. Add the fact that you're a *Christian* seeking to glorify God in the daily operation of your organization, in the midst of a very secular culture, and you're an even rarer breed! Mark it down, you will be criticized by employees, suppliers, relatives, the general public. So, the question is not "if" but "how" you handle criticism.

To criticize = to analyze, evaluate, judge adversely.

Critic = someone who is inclined to find fault.

To reject = refuse to accept, throw away, discard, disavow or disclaim.

By its very nature, criticism isn't positive or negative, constructive or destructive. Sometimes we deserve it and need it. Let's open up and share our experiences and views on criticism.

How did Jesus respond to criticism and rejection? Time after time, he kept going, kept healing, kept preaching, kept teaching. No criticism or rejection of men stopped Him from fulfilling His call.

- Next meeting on November 18 here @ 7:30 am (1st and 3rd Wednesdays)
- Upcoming events/news: Jacob's Well on Friday, November 6; African Children's Choir in Willimantic on Saturday, November 7. Rock the Sound in Springfield on November 14. New Canaan Society meeting in Hartford on November 19.
- Closing prayer