

what to do when...

Part 2: Someone You Love is Making Poor Choices

Three Questions about Confrontation

1. What makes this so hard?

- A distorted view of _____
“In the end, serious reprimand is appreciated far more than bootlicking flattery.”
Proverbs 28:23 (Msg)

“So put away all falsehood and ‘tell your neighbor the truth,’ because we belong to each other.” Eph. 4:25 (NLT)

- A distorted view of _____
“You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.” Matt. 7:5 (NIV)

2. Why get involved?

- Because _____
- Because _____
“Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.” 1 Cor. 13:6 (NIV)

“How painful it was for me to write that letter. Heartbroken, I cried over it. I didn't want to hurt you but I wanted you to know how much I love you.” 2 Cor. 2:4 (NLT)

- Because _____
“My brothers, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring him back, remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins.” James 5:19-20 (NIV)

3. How can I help? (2 Samuel 12)

- Get clear about the _____ (11:4, 12:9)
Is this really a biblical issue?

- Ask: Am _____ the right person for this? (12:1)
“Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.” Proverbs 27:6 (NIV)

- Address the issue _____ (12:1)
“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you.” Matt. 18:15 (NIV)

“When Peter came to Antioch I opposed him to his face because he was clearly in the wrong.” Galatians 2:11 (NIV)

- Be _____ in your approach (12:1-7)
“Dear brothers and sisters, if another Christian is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself.” Gal. 6:1 (NLT)

- Realize I have no control over their _____ (12:13a)

- Assure them of God's _____ (12:13b)
“The Lord has taken away your sin.”

Daily Meditations

Brief daily Bible studies and questions for reflection on today's topic!

This week's memory verse:

“Dear brothers and sisters, if another Christian is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself.” Gal 6:1

Monday

Look over the notes and verses from this past weekend. Do you typically find it easy to confront people, do you avoid it all costs or somewhere in the middle?

When was the last time you confronted someone? What were the circumstances? What did you learn from that situation?

Read Eph. 4:29. According to this verse, what should be the goal in all your conversations, including confrontation?

Thank God today that He has given you friends and brothers and sisters in Christ. Pray that you will be a faithful friend to those people even when it is difficult. Pray also that you will have a teachable heart, willing to listen to God.

Tuesday

Read Prov. 28:23, Matt. 7:5 & Eph. 4:25. Why is it difficult for you to confront those you are in relationships with? How has that difficulty impacted your relationships?

What do these verses teach you about the importance of the truth and confrontation?

Recall a time when someone close to you told you the truth even when it was hard. How did that help you?

Thank God today that He wants you to grow. Pray that you will be a person who speaks the truth in love. Pray that you will be a difference-maker in your relationships.

Wednesday

Read 1 Cor. 13:6, 2 Cor. 2:4 & James 5:19-20. What are some wrong motives you've had for wanting to confront someone? What should be your chief motivation for confronting someone? How does that motivation impact the confrontation?

Spend an extended time in prayer today asking God to purify your heart and motives. Pray that you'll be receptive to God's prompting and willing to conform your heart to His. Pray that in all your interactions you'll be motivated by love.

Thursday

Read 2 Samuel 12. What stands out to you in the story of Nathan and David? Write down one application you can make in your life.

Read Galatians 6:1. In addition to love, what other attitudes are you to have when you confront? How do these impact your confrontation?

Thank God today for the practical examples found in the Bible. Pray that you will be willing to apply what you learn. Ask God to soften your heart so that you will be gentle and humble in all your relationships.

Friday

Let's put some "feet" to what you've been studying all week. First, spend some time before God asking Him to show you any corners of your heart that need the light of His Truth. Commit those areas to Him and ask for strength to show love, humility and gentleness in all your relationships. Secondly, pray that you will have courage to speak the truth in all your relationships. Thank God for His involvement in your life. Thank Him for His love and care.

Saturday

Take the time today to go over any devotions you may have missed and to complete your memorization of this week's verse. Pray for the ministry this weekend! Thanks!