

HOW TO LOVE AND NOT COMPROMISE

Question: How do we win and love others without showing acceptance to sin?

One thing that is a must for Christians is LOVE - 1 John 4:7-8 - 7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and **EVERYONE WHO LOVES IS BORN OF GOD** and knows God. 8 The one who does not love does not know God, for **GOD IS LOVE**. NASU

Christ gave clarity so we would not mistake our version of love for Real love - Matt 10:34-37 - 34 "Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. 35 For **I HAVE COME TO TURN "A MAN AGAINST HIS FATHER, A DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER-IN-LAW—** 36 a man's enemies will be the members of his own household." 37 "Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me;

* In a nutshell, True Love is God purposed only and nothing trumps it.

It is our responsibility to reach to everyone, in order to win as many as possible - 1 Cor 9:19-23 - 19 Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to EVERYONE, to win as many as possible. 20 To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. 21 To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. 22 To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some. 23 I do all this **FOR THE SAKE OF THE GOSPEL, that I may share in its blessings.**

It is also our responsibility to bring the lost back - James 5:19-20 - 19 My brothers, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring him back, 20 remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

We are NEVER to Partner with unbelievers - 2 Cor 6:14-16 - 14 **Do not be yoked together with unbelievers**. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? 15 What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? 16 What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people."

People of the world don't know God or the things of God so we are to minister to them despite their lifestyle. However; If a person is claiming to be a Christian but acceptably living a life of sin the love we must show is separation - 1 Cor 5:9-13 - 9 I have written you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— 10 not at all meaning the people OF this world who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. 11 But now I am writing you that you MUST NOT ASSOCIATE with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat. 12 What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? 13 God will judge those outside. "Expel the wicked man from among you."

We are to have nothing to do with evil, it is our responsibility to expose it - Eph 5:11-17 - 11 Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. 13 But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, 14 for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: "Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." 15 **Be very careful, then, how you live — not as unwise but as wise**, 16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but UNDERSTAND WHAT THE LORD'S WILL IS.

Our lives must minister by displaying God - Rom 16:19 Everyone has heard about your obedience, so I am full of joy over you; but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil.

Just be warned, acceptance of wrong is equal to being wrong - 2 John 9:11 - 9 Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son. 10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting; 11 for the one who gives him a greeting PARTICIPATES IN HIS EVIL DEEDS. NASU

Summary:

1. We are to minister to the World no matter their lifestyle, but not showing acceptance to the wrong lifestyle.
2. If the person is a professing Christian and they are openly living a sinful lifestyle we are to separate from them in order to shame and hopefully have them turn back. Not allowing a stumbling block for others in the Church. (2 Thess 3:14-15)
3. If a Christian has totally turned their backs on Christ, we are to try to win them back but wisely and carefully not showing approval to their wrong life choice.