



Take A Hike

It's amazing how much pressure people put on themselves regarding Christian responsibilities. I'm speaking specifically about how much one tries to control the outcome of situations. Have you ever spoken the Word of God to someone in need who did not heed what you were saying – and then became upset because that person did not heed your words? God wants us to speak His Word, but he does not want us to become frustrated when people won't believe.

*In the end, the Bible says that **every knee shall bow and that every tongue will confess Jesus Christ as Lord.***



Phil 2:10-11 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Since this is true, you really don't ever need to become frustrated when someone won't listen. Eventually, they will!

If you were God, things would be different, but you are not God. You

didn't create the world, Christ, and Christendom. You had nothing to do with any of that, so much so, that God had to choose you. That's the only way you became part of this higher, Christian order.

John 15: 16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

You may think that you had something to do with your Christian introduction, but, trust me, you didn't. God made Christianity available to you. Then you confessed Jesus as Lord

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and believed that God raised him from the dead. Then you became a Christian! God choose you.

Jesus Christ is the Head of the Christian Church. He is responsible for orchestrating the movements within the Church.

Eph 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

If God created everything, and if God choose you, and if Christ is the head of the church, then it seems to me that you had nothing to do with any initial aspects of these things at all. If you can understand these 4 points, you can then begin to grasp the fact that you have not been called to be the police force for Christianity. Wow! That's quite a statement, but it's true. Too many Christians try to "police" other Christians into doing what they think is best for

them. ***God never called us to become Christian police.*** That's His job. After all, every knee SHALL bow and every tongue SHALL confess Jesus Christ as Lord. If people won't believe what you have to say, learn to walk away. Don't just stand there ignoring the fact that they won't believe. After you've spoken the Words of God, you've done your part. Only when another opportunity opens up should you get more involved.

Rom 14:11 For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.

And ...

Phil 2:11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

No matter how you squeeze it,

no one shall escape these two, glorious acts. We just happened to have done them before the knee-bowing ceremony. Consider yourself privileged, special, called out, chosen – CHRISTIAN!

Now that you are in the family, you should learn to enjoy it. Don't fabricate some religious form and then force it upon others. ***You were never asked by God to commit such a treasonous act against the Father God.*** Yes,

treason. This kind of "policing" is contrary to God's ways with His family. God is totally and completely a "free-will" God. How many times has God beat you over the head when you sinned? NEVER! How many times has God yelled at you when you were having a bad day? NEVER! How many times has God punished you when you punished your friends, family, or fellow believers? NEVER! I hope you are getting the

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point. God lets you live your life as you see fit, no matter how good or bad. He's still your Heavenly Father and you are still in His family, now and forever. You can't undo anything He's done for you. He made it that way.

1 Pet 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

Incorruptible seed can't become spoiled.

It can't turn sour or against you. It always remains within you. It is your new and eternal identity. It is the basis of your free will and ability to live your life as you please. It is not a license to sin; it is your passport into God's free-will. Don't misuse it. And don't let it become the reason you police others. Let others live their lives freely too.

Long ago, I adopted a couple of rules to oversee my actions in the "policing" category. Unless a person is doing two things, I won't get involved in their woes. 1. They must be breaking the Word. 2. They must be hurting others.

If these two things aren't happening, I won't get involved unless the person asks for help. I've watched people really hurt themselves. I've even watched some bottom out in life. But if they weren't breaking the Word AND hurting others in the process, I steered clear. Why? Because I had no real basis of confrontation. (Don't get me wrong: I've taken people to hospitals, prayed for them when hurt, suggested that they spend more time in God's Word, etc...) Sure, I might not have liked the fact drugs were being used, or alcohol or money or any other vice. But I firmly believe that a person has the right to the life of their own choosing. But I believe

something even greater: if a person was able to choose drugs, money, anger or other; they also ARE able to choose God's Word.

Where is this discussion going? To the front lines of your battlefield to attack your frustration within these kinds of situations. Are you embattled with people who refuse to heed God's Words? Are you frustrated because of this? If you are, then it's time to change your habits, bad habits if you will.

After you speak God's Word to someone and that person rejects God, walk away! Speak It and walk away. Let It do Its marvelous work. The Creator made His Word such that It has a life of Its own. Do you believe in Its life? I do. Either every knee shall bow or every knee shall not bow. Either every tongue shall confess or every tongue shall not confess. I'll let you choose what you believe. After you speak God's Word, learn to walk

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away, meaning – stop getting so frustrated when they don't believe. Trust me, one day they will bow and confess.

You can handle the “walk away” aspect however you'd like. Maybe you'll need to walk away quickly; maybe you'll be able to stay and enjoy the person's believing of God's Word. Who knows? You decide how quickly your walk away should be in any given situation. If you learn how to manage the “walking away” aspect, you'll also be able to reduce your anger, rage and ultimately, frustration that the “policing” mentality havoc has been wrecking in your life. Folks, this is an amazing concept! If you're tired of the frustration, change your habits and start practicing this walk. ***Let a person live his own life and be responsible for his own actions.*** Give the Creator, God, His due respect too! He gave mankind freewill.

Who are you to take it away? Take a hike the next time you feel the frustration coming on.

Much love in Christ,

Jerry D. Brown