

Blurred Lines

"As Scripture says, "God's name is evil spoken of among the nations because of you." Romans 2:24

Are you sending mixed messages about Christ to those around you?

Studies show that although there is an average of three Bibles in every household in America, most people are not reading the word of God. So, how are the lost are going to ever become familiar with the "good book"? Believe it or not, many of them will learn (right or wrong) by watching those who belong to Christ. Yes. You may be the only Bible some people read. Everything they know about Christ and Christianity will come from what they see in you, those who claim to be Christians. Since this is the case, members of the Lord's church must make sure we are not creating blurred lines by not practicing what we preach.

One of the main excuses (or crutches) many in the world use for not wanting to have anything to do with Christianity or the church is the hypocrisy they see in those who profess to be Christians. While that is not a good reason to abandon Christ or his church, those who hold on to this accusation indeed have a valid point. There are many followers of Christ who, because they are not living according to the word of God, have become a stumblingblock for those who may want to follow Christ. There are those among Christ's followers who preach love but practice hate, preach grace but practice condemnation, preach righteousness but practice unrighteousness. No wonder so many in the world are confused about Christ and hesitant to make a real commitment to follow him.

When others see you Monday through Saturday, do they see a heart, mind and life that is in total submission and obedience to God's word? Are you a different person before and after Sunday worship service than you are in worship service? Are you drawing people to Christ through your daily conduct or are you drawing people away from him? If someone were to follow you and how you live, would they find Jesus?

Don't give the devil another way to hold a lost soul hostage because of hypocrisy they may see in you. Don't send mixed messages. Make sure your life reflects that you belong to Christ every day and not just Sunday. Remember Peter's admonition to Christians in 1 Peter 2:11-12 about our conduct among the unsaved and be sure to practice what you preach.