



F. Y. C.

For Your Consideration

❖ MAY 2016 ❖

KILLJOYS

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

Philippians 4:4

However, such rejoicing is squelched by the following:

“Playing church,” dabbling but not committed.

Not considering that “membership” constitutes “discipleship.”

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**Resisting the molding of character by the Spirit.**

Stubbornly holding on to the “old self.”

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Resisting conformity of actions. Know, but not doing.

Faith not working with works to perfect one’s faith.

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**Perfunctory assembling, singing, praying.**

Participating reluctantly, out of duty, obligation, or guilt.

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Self-centeredness. Own needs and wants crowding out all else.

“Golden rule” misconstrued to be “You do unto me.”

Not heeding “do good unto all men...”

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**Negligence: “should have, could have, would have.”**

Always “going to.”

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Complaining when made to endure the insignificant.

Losing sight of the “big picture.”

The Legs of the Lambe Are Never Equal

This proverb has never been so true as it pertains to those who oppose Christianity. They harshly judge Christians for being judgmental. They are critical of Christians being critical. They take a stand against Christians who take a stand. They label Christians as fanatics while being fanatical in their opposition to Christianity.

Convincing Our Children

It's essential that we convince our children the importance of living according to what is taught in the Bible. However, it is difficult to do so when by our actions are inconsistent with what we say.

What they see outweighs what we say.

It's vital that we teach our children to be regular in assembling. However, it is difficult to do so when we permit them to engage in other activities that prevent them from attending.

What they see outweighs what we say.

It's important to instruct our children that the church is the most important institution on earth. However, it is difficult to do when one does little to support its work.

What they see outweighs what we say.

It's critical that we teach our children to love one another. However, this becomes troublesome when they hear us constantly criticizing and complaining about others, especially other members.

What they see outweighs what we say.

It's crucial that we teach our children to obey all of the Lord's commands. However, the job becomes hopeless when they see us excusing ourselves from obeying certain commands we may find "too restrictive."

What they see outweighs what we say.

It's consequential that we teach our children how the Lord wants them to act as husbands, wives, and parents. However, there is more likelihood they will follow our example rather than follow our teaching.

What they see outweighs what we say.

Unless, and until what we say and what we do are one and the same, we will never be convincing. **Be convincing!**



*So, as those who have been
chosen of God, holy and
beloved, put on a heart
of compassion, kindness,
humility, gentleness
and patience.*

Colossians 3:12



'Make Someone's Day'
To know that someone cares—
warms the heart.
To hear words of comfort—
lifts one's spirit.
To see a bright smiling face—
aids a cheerful countenance.
To feel a pat on the back
or a warm embrace—
strengthens one's resolve.

How Today's Politically Correct Thinking Might Revise These Passages

NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION

POLITICALLY CORRECT VERSION

Acts 5:1-4

But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, and kept back some of the price for himself, with his wife's full knowledge, and bringing a portion of it, he laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back some of the price of the land? While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? (Revision)

Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."

You probably had a good reason to keep back some of the proceeds. There was no need for you to lie. It's just an error in judgment. I forgive you for it's the loving thing to do.

1 Corinthians 5:1-5

It is actually reported that there is immorality among you, and immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles, that someone has his father's wife. You have become arrogant and have not mourned instead, so that the one who had done this deed would be removed from your midst. For I, on my part, though absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged him who has so committed this, as though I were present. (Revision)

In the name of our Lord Jesus, when you are assembled, and I with you in spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus, I have decided to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

My judgment is this: This is a unique situation, but if it's a loving relationship you need to be tolerant and leave room for diversity. It's love not law that is important. Remember, you are to love your brother, not judge him.

Galatians 2:11-14

But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. For prior to the coming of certain men from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he began to withdraw and hold himself aloof, fearing the party of the circumcision. The rest of the Jews joined him in hypocrisy, with the result that even Barnabas was carried away by their hypocrisy. But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in the presence of all, (Revision)

"If you, being a Jew, live like the Gentiles and not like the Jews, how is it that you compel the Gentiles to live like Jews?"

You were afraid of conflict and didn't want to offend the visiting Jewish brethren. The momentary distancing of yourself from the Gentile brethren avoided an unpleasant situation. The Gentile brethren just need to be understanding. Yes, avoid offense. Maintain peace at all costs.



Ponder This

Hold to God's Hand

While shopping with our young children, I never held their little hand. Instead, I held out two fingers and told them they were to hold onto me. The only way the hold was to be broken was for them to let go.

As I look back on that arrangement it reminds me of holding onto God's hand (figuratively). He has extended His hand to us and it is up to us to take hold and not let go. Whenever the hold is broken, it never is God who lets go, it is always us.

We are not to let go when we don't want to go where He leads. We are not to let go when the glitter of the world beckons. We are not to let go when trials and temptations come.

He is always faithful and never lets go because He loves us and wants what's best for us.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

John 3:16

The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:9

No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

1 Corinthians 10:13



Interesting Bible Verses

Expanding Your Bible Knowledge

Luke 23:33 KJV

And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

CALVARY

- Aramaic (*Gulgaltha*), Hebrew (*Gulgoleth*). Greek (Cranion), "a skull."
- The derivation of Golgotha (not "a place of skulls" but "of a skull") implies a bald, round mound or small hill.
- It is not called a mount in the Gospels, as it is now commonly called.
- The Gospels describe it as a place near enough to the city that those coming in and out could read the inscription "Jesus of Nazareth — King of the Jews."
- The location itself is mentioned in all four Gospels.
- The translators of the King James Version used an anglicised version—Calvary—of the Latin Vulgate (*Calvariae*), in the Gospel of Luke, rather than translate it. **The widespread use of the word Calvary stems from this single translation decision.**
- The tomb where Jesus was laid was nearby. *Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. Therefore because of the Jewish day of preparation, since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.*

John 19:41-42

*Source: Various Bible Dictionaries

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Bible references are from the NASB except where another translation is referenced.

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