

**Miracles that follow the plow :: question about a decision****question about a decision - posted by bible4life (), on: 2010/5/22 20:54**

My wife and i have been thinking about moving out lately out of my parents house in illinois and her sister who is about to move into a home in Indiana offered to let us stay till we got on our own feet. Now the problem is this, her sister is moving into the house with her boyfriend and the kid they had together, so their not married not believers either. Would it be sinful for me to move into a home with an unmarried couple? Would i be in a sense making their situation seem okay by living their? I do not believe their married just because they had a kid, yes they had a union but i don't think that is marriage. What do you think i could do, i am seeking wisdom so i don't make a foolish decision, i don't have to move from my parents, this would be a choice of mine and my wives to make. We are not being pushed out. Also another quick question would it be sin to enter their house even to come over to hangout if them or even a believer was living like that unmarried, would that be sin?

Re: question about a decision, on: 2010/5/22 22:10

respectfully i suggest, stay in your parents home, what a blessing that is for you in these times. I assume your parents home is full of love, and good family times. What can be better than that?

it is no sin to love family members right where they are at, the hardest burden is to be "a prophet in one's hometown"...let your marriage be the witness of God's Grace and Love, so as to cause envy, Godly envy in what your sister in law and her son's father see in you both, a model of a loving marriage, may it last forever, in Jesus Name i pray, amen

Re: question about a decision - posted by Ceri (), on: 2010/5/23 13:49

No, it is not a sin to even enter their home - look at how even Jesus was frowned upon for entering the homes and mixing with what was regarded as 'sinful people'

My husband is the only Christian in his family and suffered much when first saved. Recently his mother after 25 years on her own entered a relationship with a lovely man and has moved in with him.

All his family members have lived together before marriage - except us! - we have been the exception here! But I cannot and will not distance myself from his family because they are not living an ideal Christian life, for they are not Christians anyway.

My hubby and I lead by the example of our lives and how we bring up our children.

His family know and will even tell us that our children are so different and there is also a bond of love and respect between us.

After such a sour start to our marriage from his mother because of my Christian background, I have worked hard with her and now experience love from from mum-in-law.

The proudest moment for me was when she told me that she knew it was only my faith had made me the person I am.

Please don't distance yourself from family!

Re: - posted by twayneb (), on: 2010/5/23 14:03

I think I have to agree with Ceri. It is not a sin for you to live with your sister and her boyfriend, even though they are not married. On the other hand, I assume they know you don't condone their decision and believe it to be sin? The more critical part of the decision is what the arrangement is going to do to your relationship with them. Two families living under the same roof can be done, but comes with it's own set of unique challenges. All of the pertinent financial and other details need to be well thought out and worked out ahead of time. Don't love their sin, obviously, but love them in spite of their sin.

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Re: - posted by Miccah (), on: 2010/5/23 14:22

I would have to take a different stance here.

If you agree to move in with those who are not following the Word, then you are condoning their style of life through your acceptance of their living conditions.

My older sister wanted to move in with my family a few years back. She is single, no children and never been married. She has a successful career and is doing as the world would say as "very good".

Before agreeing to allow my sister in our home, I said that there are a few rules that are non-negotiable. First, no men over to the home, regardless if it is friendship, dating or such. With small children in my home (4 under 7 years old) they would not be able to understand "the dating scene" and there are way to many possibilities of "no good" that can happen by allowing strange men into our home. The other was no drinking in the home. Even though we are not against alcohol, I felt that it would not be a good standard to open up to my children. These are the two main rules. No need to say that she politely refused to live with us.

When it comes to you moving in with someone that you know is living in sin, you need to recognize what affects their sin may have on your families lives and the amount of compromise of the Word that you are willing to live with. Once you start compromising on different subjects of the Word, it is a lot easier to justify compromising on other points of the Word.

Brother. My suggestion is to move into a small 1 bedroom Apt. or studio with your wife. Will it be hard? Will it be expensive? Will you have small to no amounts of money? Will it be close quarters? Most likely yes to all the above. But... you can stay true to the Word of the Lord while you are doing this.

Don't fall into the trap of thinking that by moving in with them that you will be a "good witness" of the Lord to them. Trust me when I say that you will be a better witness to them by not condoning their way of life. Also, you can move close to them and spend tons of time with them if you would really like to.

Just think about the witness that you will give when your life mimics the Word of the Lord, and not the ways of the world!

Blessings my friend

Re: - posted by rbanks, on: 2010/5/23 14:37

Brother,

The kid is innocent and has nothing to do with mom and dad not being married or saved.

I believe you said they are not believers and this would be temporary. So if you can go there and let your Christian life shine and take this as an opportunity to maybe lead them to the Lord.

You love them don't you. They need Jesus and you can show them the Love of Christ. After a period goes by and God forbid that they would reject your witness but if they do, well then you can move out.

It is just a risk you need to pray about and be led by the Lord.

Blessings brother whatever you decide.

Re: - posted by bible4life (), on: 2010/5/23 15:28

Thank you for all your points, I do agree with you that to distance could have a bad effect and the point you made about Jesus entering a sinner's house is a great point. It is sad to tell you the truth because of so many ungodly conversations and things being said and watched on television you have to separate when it comes to those things. I think it would be great to come into any unbeliever's home and accept them with love most definitely but that separation from the ungodly things they do I must do. Miccah on the other hand I am in agreement with you as far as the moving in goes, I do think that they need to see my rejection of the ungodly things and lifestyle for them to see Christ, my rejection I think of staying with them till they get married will possibly reveal to them God's holiness and how we want to live holy and honor God, I say that because I knew that already. But thanks for the great points, I do have a brother in the Lord doing the same thing and he would get married right now if he could, so I see him but not all the time. But thank you guys.

Re: - posted by rbanks, on: 2010/5/23 16:19

1 Corinthians 5:9 I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators:

1 Corinthians 5:10 Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world.

1 Corinthians 5:11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

1 Corinthians 5:12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?

1 Corinthians 5:13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

It appears here to mean that Paul is saying not to keep company with a person who is called a brother if he is still living or goes back to living a sinful lifestyle. Therefore we are to judge them by not keeping company with them showing God's disapproval. We are reproving those within our fellowship not wanting to bring reproach against Christ.

Those outside are the unbelievers and God is there judge and it is the goodness of God that leads them to repentance. We keep company with them to win them to Christ and for no other reason. We do not fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness but rather reprove them by the light of Christ within us.

We can't witness to the lost if we distance ourselves from them because they are not living right but we can witness to someone who claims to be a brother but not living right if we distance ourselves from them because they are suppose to know better.

This should be taken in account after

Galatians 6:1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

This should be carefully followed to those who have been overtaken in a fault.

Just a few thoughts.

Re: - posted by Miccah (), on: 2010/5/23 16:31

rbanks. Agreed with the verses you posted. Who could argue against such?

But keeping company with someone, and moving into thier home is an entirely different thing. Think about it. They worship something other then the Lord. Is that what you want to bring your family up around, especially if you have a choice in the matter NOT to move in?

We lead a house church. There are unbelievers that attend. My wife and I witness to them through the Word, and through our lives. We have not forsaken the lost. Yet, I would not allow an unsaved person to move in with me and my family at this time. We are in the midst of raising our children and teaching them His ways. Why would I bring someone in, full time, who I know does not share the same love for the Lord as we do? Could the unsaved get saved... yes. But my children could be exposed to the workings of Satan himself from this unbeliever.

So, stay in contact with unbelievers. Reach out to them. Love on them. Be a light in the midst of darkness. But unless the Lord leads you directly, separate when it comes to light and darkness. If the Lord doesn't lead you directly, you may be doing this out of your own selfish gain, and not of the Lords.

Re: - posted by rbanks, on: 2010/5/23 16:40

Miccah

quote-

So, stay in contact with unbelievers. Reach out to them. Love on them. Be a light in the midst of darkness. But unless the Lord leads you directly, separate when it comes to light and darkness. If the Lord doesn't lead you directly, you may be doing this out of your own selfish gain, and not of the Lords.

-quote-

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Very much agreed my brother!

Only felt to clarify some things

Thanks!

Re: , on: 2010/5/23 18:43

i kinda' agree with Travis and Ceri.

This comes from experience, however, it's from the opposite end.

Several times, many have been allowed to stay here in this house, when having nowhere else to go or possibly nothing stable to begin establishing a regular lifestyle again. i speak of those being release from correctional facilities, whatever their crime that caused them to find themselves imprisoned.

The head elder of that church i used to attend reprimanded me for it, and it was not nice... (asking him if he knew the meaning of being a whitewashed tomb. He talked about how i should fear for my possessions, my family, and i told him to fear God... and on and on and on it went. Finally, there was a "dust shaking" and their doors closed 6 months later.

This is the same place where another elder got on my case -("what are you doing talking to him?" (distain in his voice))- or going out between Sunday School and the Worship Service to share Jesus with a bum digging for aluminium beer cans in a dumpster. (the fellow accidentally spilled some stale beer on my clothes when one can he retrieved spilled and everybody in the service seemed to act rather strangely towards me from that point forward).

i am not going to tell you one way or the other, For some it would be fine and others just could not handle it.

First, in prayer, examine yourself. If this intended move is for the sake of others, starting with Jesus... or only towards your own self-interest.

2.) Prayerfully examine intentions and habit patterns of the others involved.

3.) If it is decided to go ahead with it, pre-establish in yourself how you will respond to the various potential situations that stand in opposition to you living faithful to God in His ways...and stick with what has been determined in you beforehand.

4.) If you find yourself in their home, serve Jesus by serving them towards their better interests (namely, the kingdom of God and His salvation in every way possible). Do nothing that will deter this example.

Whatever you decide, remember you represent Jesus Christ, and as such, there is no room whatsoever towards being a self-righteous hypocritical prig.

Love covers a multitude of sins.
God is Love.

CIAO!
g
Acts 20:32

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Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2010/5/23 21:28

Miccah, I appreciate your advice on this issue.

Visiting someone vs living with them are two completely different situations. To live with ungodly people will seriously put you at risk for compromise because you will find your convictions challenged at every turn.

My two cents...

Blessings,
ginnyrose

Re: - posted by learn (), on: 2010/5/26 17:32

John/Bible4life,

Pls do not move in with them. Stay at your parents place or get a small place (if you can).

Some who advise may/may not have read what you have been going through for the past few years. Even, if you are not facing the 'whether you are saved/or not' situation etc, I also would advise you not to move in with them.

When you move in with them, you have to respect their views as you are guests in their house. However, their way of living will be contradictory to what a Christian believes in. This will cause a lot of friction in you and your wife and possibly with them too (which may lead to arguments between both of you and uneasiness between you and your sister in law's family) and also torment in your heart. Also, you may be influenced to be lax on more and more non-Christian things. You will also likely have to hold your tongue and there may be times when they will try to influence/provoke you to their way of thinking/living and believe me, this has the potential to turn into something unpleasant. Also, your wife is a non-Christian. What happens if your wife seeks the help of her sister and sister's boyfriend to sway you to certain non-Christian things that she disagrees with you or try to influence you that Christ is not real or that you don't really have to work that hard to live a godly life. You already have difficulties in your faith at this time, don't put yourself in a worse situation.

With regards to keeping in contact with them, by all means do so. But keeping in contact with them does not mean staying with them under 1 roof when you have the option of not staying with them.

I understand that your mother is not a Christian, however, at least staying with your parents will generally be easier than staying with a sister/sister in law as the bonds between parents and children are usually stronger than between siblings.

Pls I speak from experience and also from what others have shared with me before.

Re: - posted by EverestoSama, on: 2010/5/26 20:32

Quote:
-----Visiting someone vs living with them are two completely different situations. To live with ungodly people will seriously put you at risk for compromise because you will find your convictions challenged at every turn.

This is sound advice. It would be wise to heed this.

Re: question about a decision, on: 2010/5/26 21:17

Quote:
-----Would it be sinful for me to move into a home with an unmarried couple?

It's not a sin at all, unless you think it's a sin.

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It's totally up to you unless someone gives you divine wisdom.

But if Sister is unsaved, Boyfriend is not either, sounds like a great place to be a living epistles, known and read of all men, but in this case, your Sister and her boyfriend.

They might even get you to babysit their kid, to which you can talk to her/him about Jesus, who knows, all kinds of opportunities.

Look at it this way.

If you go and live in apartment building. You don't know who is living there. Your neighbor could be two gay guys, and across the hall one guy living with two girls and the rest of the building is housing ten unmarried couples, and you're the only light these people have.

You're in missionary territory man!

Shine!!

Re: question about a decision, on: 2010/5/26 22:23

A close family member recently invited me to his college graduation. Last time we had spoken, he told me that he is an atheist, drug user, and drunkard. He would curse and swear blasphemously if I spoke about Jesus.

Even though it was difficult for me to turn down the invitation, because of my affection for him, it turned into a great opportunity to share the gospel with him in a way that applied directly to his life. I told him that Jesus said it doesn't matter if you gain the whole world and lose your soul so I couldn't come and congratulate him on his education knowing that he will end up in hell if he doesn't ever repent. I also told him repent or perish and that God is reaching out to him and he can have his sins forgiven if he turns to Jesus.

I trust that God will use my refusing the invitation to try to get through to him and I believe it was better for him that I refused to go. Sometimes what is best for someone is not the way we are naturally inclined to treat them, especially because of natural family affection.

Every situation is different, but I thought the similarities might provide some encouragement. God bless you.

Re: - posted by Miccah (), on: 2010/5/26 22:54

snufalapus wrote:

-quote- But if Sister is unsaved, Boyfriend is not either, sounds like a great place to be a living epistles, -end quote-

Snuf... seriously? seriously? I had to read this three times before it sunk in. You are telling someone who has questions about his own salvation, to move into a non-believer's home... TO BE A GOOD WITNESS???

Frankly this advice may very well lead the whole group of them to hell.

-quote- known and read of all men, but in this case, your Sister and her boyfriend. -end quote-

Philippians 1:15-17 (NKJV)

Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from goodwill: The former preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains; but the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel.

-quote- They might even get you to babysit their kid, to which you can talk to her/him about Jesus, who knows, all kinds of opportunities. - end quote -

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Quite possibly the worst advise that I have seen and has no scriptural bearing. You are taking the authority and trust of these parents, who are placing their child in your care, and then you would advise going behind their backs? The ends do not justify the means in this case. Its different if the parents know that you are talking to their kids about the Lord, in this scenario, they would not.

What happens when the parents find out what is going on behind closed doors when they are not there? What will their reaction be? What kind of light are you showing these folks by hamstringing them and their children? Not to mention that all your credibility as a Christian would be compromised, and maybe even your place to live.

What happens some day if they did this to your children while you were away, but with a non-Christian religion? You really want to open that door?

Come on man, we are Christians! This advice is what the world would tell people to do.

-quote- Look at it this way.

If you go and live in apartment building. You don't know who is living there. Your neighbor could be two gay guys, and across the hall one guy living with two girls and the rest of the building is housing ten unmarried couples, and you're the only light these people have.

You're in missionary territory man!

Shine!! -end quote-

Look at it this way. You will be in the midst of the battlefield. If you are not 100% sure about your salvation and 100% sure and confident about your beliefs, STAY OUT OF THE BATTLEFIELD, and learn His ways first. If not, your going home in a body bag your first step on the battlefield.

Re: - posted by learn (), on: 2010/5/27 13:54

Bible4life,

Read your earlier reply to others here. You did bring up some good points but you are not ready right now to minister to them when you are currently facing so much problems in your faith right now.

How will it sound to non-Christians when you try to convert them to Christianity when you have difficulties reading the bible because you doubt the bible. How are you going to convince them when you can't even convince yourself. What about the panic/anxiety/devil attacks that you so desperately seek help here and elsewhere 1-2 years ago. Are you still being plagued by them? There are so many problems that you are facing now and have been for some time. Strengthen yourself first in the Lord. You can't help/convince others until God strengthens you first.

I really have to say I'm wondering if this is the devil's ploy to get you to stop focusing on what's important by getting busy with the less important things. Your focus should be on reconciling yourself with God, not on trying to show a good example to others (about Godly things etc) when you are not ready yourself.

Re: think carefully bible4life - posted by Lysa (), on: 2010/5/27 18:33

I agree with learn and miccah on this... I know you've shared much about your struggles with them. You do not have to answer these on this forum but please don't take this as a woman teaching you but more from a motherly standpoint, if that's ok.

1. What is pushing you out of your parents house?
2. Why are you even considering moving to another state?
3. What is your wife saying in all this? You say "your wife and you" are considering but truly, who came up with this idea first?

This is what I would tell my son: In the midst of your problems, why are you considering moving away from your church, your church family AND your natural family? Where ever you go... there you are, the same old you.

How much money have you saved living at your parents place? How much money do you think you will save at someone else's place who doesn't handle money as well as your parents?

I truly believe this: A new state and new house partners is NOT the answer.

God bless you as you weigh this out,

Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2010/5/27 22:26

I agree with Micaah, learn and Lysa on this issue...

I think I can promise you one thing if you move in with these ungodly people. You will have conflict, the kind you never dreamed before OR you will succumb to their way of life.

I know from personal experiences and other parents will tell you the same thing. If you have a prodigal child living in your home it is like having a devil living there right under your nose who will buck you at every turn. When this child moved out, there was peace...other parents will tell you the same.

I suggest you and your wife get a place of your own and allow Jesus to be the head of your home. And then you be the head of your wife and allow your wife to be your helpmeet.

ginnyrose

Re: - posted by bible4life (), on: 2010/5/28 23:40

Finally i can get back to you all about this. I told my wife about saving up and getting our own place instead and she didn't say no so hopefully we can avoid the situation with her sister. I let her know how i didn't want to move in with them because they are not married. SHE BABYSITS HER SISTERS BABY wednesday till friday afternoon so she will have to stay there when they move in the next few weeks those days, my wife had been watching her at her moms house where her sister lived too since March, so now their moving and this is why the issue is coming up because they offered but i really don't want to especially with my struggles. Thanks for what everyone said, please continue to pray for me and my wife and all our families salvation if you can. God bless you guys sincerely John

Re: - posted by learn (), on: 2010/5/29 13:13

Bible4life,

Glad that you are making the right decision.

However, you need to tell your wife the truth about not moving in with them. Its not just because they are not married, its much more for example your struggles etc.

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If you just mention that its because they are not married, then what happens if they get married and your wife may be thinking of moving in with them again.

Its better to be honest with her as far as possible and from what you have revealed here so far, I am not aware of any reason not to be so with her.