

Acts 10:34

Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality."

Are we guilty of finding out if a person is a believer or not, then after we do, do we treat and talk to them differently based upon if they are a believer or not? Even though we may say we don't, I think we really do. Even though it may be subtle, we all still do it. Now it has nothing to do with their skin color, or their nationality or their political view or anything else, other than their relationship with Jesus.

But aren't you glad that God doesn't treat us any different based upon if we are a believer or not, even Peter said that *"In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality."* or as the KJV says, *"Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons"*

In God's eyes, we are all sinners and we all need a Savior, that's why He sent His Son, Jesus to die for us all, so that we could be saved.

† **1 John 4:9** *In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.*

But He didn't save us so that we could treat others differently. Paul even said, *For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more; and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law; to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law; to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with you. 1 Corinthians 9:19-23*

Now this does not mean that if your friends go out and party and go to clubs and bars or go to watch an "R" rated movie, that you should do the same thing also. Paul was not saying that he became a sinner to win sinners to Christ. No, he still stayed a believer and lived as a believers even around those who did not believe. I believe it was more of he was not condemning or looking down on others because they were not believers.

Another way to look at it is how you act and talk to others when you are in church on Sunday, verses when you are, say at work. Would people at work be surprised to find out that you are a Christian or even go to church based upon the way you talk to them and act around them at work or outside of work? Would people in church be shocked if you talked to them and acted the same way you do at work or outside of church?

Now I know there is a little difference in the way we talk to believers verse none believers, because non believers do not want to hear about the things of God, at least not like believers do. But other then that, our speech, actions and things we do and say should be the same no matter where we are, or who we are around or talking to.

† **Galatians 2:11-13** Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.

Simply be who you are in Christ Jesus, which is a new creation, old things have passed away, all things have become new. And if someone is a non believer and they choose to reject you because you are the same person in the church as you are outside of the church, then remember, it's not really you that they are rejecting, but it's the one who you believe in that they are rejecting.

† **John 15:18** *If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you.*

† **Galatians 5:12-14** *I could wish that those who trouble you would even cut themselves off! For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."*