

Proverbs 1:10-14

My son, if sinners entice you, Do not consent. If they say, "Come with us, Let us lie in wait to shed blood; Let us lurk secretly for the innocent without cause; Let us swallow them alive like Sheol, And whole, like those who go down to the Pit; We shall find all kinds of precious possessions, We shall fill our houses with spoil; Cast in your lot among us, Let us all have one purse"

- ☹ "You should play the Lotto, the jackpot is millions of dollars, and wouldn't you love to have that kind of money?"
- ☹ "Come on to the bar with us and have a drink, God won't punish you for just having a beer with the gang."
- ☹ "We took a 1 ½ hour lunch, but we should all just put down that we took an hour."
- ☹ "Come on, if you love me you'll let me stay the night with you."

Our non-Christian friends and satan try to lure us with things of this world, just like the examples I just gave above. Or maybe none of them apply to you, but there are always ways that the enemy will try to lure us away from the Lord and to follow his schemes. What's worse is a lot of times he will use a friend or family member or someone that you really care about to do it.

Look at my examples again. These are not things that strangers would say, but are things that family members, co-workers, friends and even someone you are dating will say to you.

The song by Michael Card titled "Why" speaks this in volumes when he penned.

Why did it have to be a friend
Who chose to betray the Lord?
And why did he use a kiss to show them
That's not what a kiss is for?

Only a friend can betray a friend
A stranger has nothing to gain
And only a friend comes close enough
To ever cause so much pain

Those words are so true, and we all know this because we have all been betrayed by someone we trusted or cared about at least once in our lives. But there are also times when the enemy will use those we love to betray us, and they have no idea they are doing so. Once again, I point back to my examples. When people say these things, it's not always because they want to get you in trouble or even have you take part in what they are doing, which is wrong. In their eyes its ok, because satan has blinded them to the truth of how destructive it is.

But as a Christian, we know these things are not ok. And we know when someone is just being deceitful and wanting to drag us down into the pit they have chosen to live in. In these cases, God warns us in verse 15 not to walk with them.

† **Proverbs 1:15** *My son, do not walk in the way with them, Keep your foot from their path.*

But one of the biggest things the enemy uses is material things to try and sway us away from the Lord. ***“We shall find all kinds of precious possessions, We shall fill our houses with spoil”***

- ☺ You can make some bucks if you just compromise.
- ☺ You prove your love for me if you just sleep with me.
- ☺ Sleep in on Sunday instead of getting up and going to church, YOU deserve it.

They all sound good, but they are all deceptions and false promises from the enemy.

† **Proverbs 1:15-16** *My son, do not walk in the way with them, Keep your foot from their path; For their feet run to evil, And they make haste to shed blood.*