

Teen Topics Pushing the Limits

The Issue:

Far too often we try to push the limits of what we know we should not do. We often live trying to see how much we can “get away with” without actually crossing the line and sinning. Should we really be flirting with sin and trying to get as close to the edge as possible, or should we have a different focus?

What does the Bible say?

What do these verses say about the focus we should have?

- > I Chron. 28:9 – God knows our heart. He wants us to seek Him.
- > Ps. 27:4 – Our sole focus should be to grow closer to God.
- > Ps. 139:23-24 – We should ask God to direct us in His ways.
- > Prov. 16:2 – Beyond just our actions, God looks at our motives.
- > II Tim. 2:22 – Flee the dangers of sin and pursue godliness.

What should I do?

Scripture gives overwhelming support that our focus should not be on pushing the limits, but rather on being committed to doing all things in a way that clearly glorifies God and draws us closer to Him in obedience. Some good questions we must ask ourselves are:

1. How well are my actions pleasing God? (I Cor. 10:31)
2. How well are my actions drawing me closer to God?
(James 4:8)

God is not pleased when our desire is to push to the edge of what we think is “okay” (He does not want us going in the direction that leads us away from Him)! However, God is pleased when we make decisions that draw us closer to Him in obedience. Let us apply these principles to every aspect of our lives, so that in all we do, we will continually be pursuing Him and His righteousness (Matt. 6:33; I Tim. 6:11).

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