

MOVING FROM A BLESSER TO A BRIDGE-BUILDER

MOVE: Part Five

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¹⁹ Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. ²⁰ To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law...so as to win those under the law. ²¹ To those not having the law I became like one not having the law...so as to win those not having the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. ²³ I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.
(1 Corinthians 9:19–23 NIV)

THE PROBLEM

- **COUNTERFEIT** CHRISTIANS (1 CORINTHIANS 13:5)
- **CARNAL** CHRISTIANS (1 CORINTHIANS 3:1)
- **CORNY** CHRISTIANS (2 THESSALONIANS 2:2)
- **CRAZY** CHRISTIANS (MATTHEW 24:11)

THE FIX: AUTHENTICITY

When I first came to you...I didn't use lofty words and impressive wisdom to tell you God's secret plan. ² For I decided that while I was with you I would forget everything except Jesus Christ, the one who was crucified. ³ I came to you in weakness—timid and trembling. ⁴ And my message and my preaching were very plain. Rather than using clever and persuasive speeches, I relied only on the power of the Holy Spirit. ⁵ I did this so you would trust not in human wisdom but in the power of God.
(1 Corinthians 2:1-5, NLT)

HOW TO LIVE AN ATTRACTIVE CHRISTIAN LIFE

1. Surrender your **SELFISHNESS**.

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. (Galatians 2:20, NIV)

2. Be **STRATEGIC**.

Jesus said to them, "Come with me, and I will teach you [how] to catch people." (Matthew 4:19, GNT)

Use your heads as you live and work among outsiders. Don't miss a trick. Make the most of every opportunity. (Colossians 4:5, The Message)

3. Compromise your comfort, but not your **CONVICTIONS**.

If a nonbeliever invites you to dinner...go ahead and enjoy yourself; eat everything placed before you. It would be both bad manners and bad spirituality to cross-examine your host on the ethical purity of each course as it is served. (1 Corinthians 10:27, The Message)

4. Be truthful about your **STRUGGLES**.

But if we live in the light, as God is in the light, we can share fellowship with each other...If we say we have no sin, we are fooling ourselves, and the truth is not in us. (1 John 1:7-8, NCV)

Not that I have already reached [the goal] or am already fully mature, but I make every effort to take hold of it because I also have been taken hold of by Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:12, HCSB)

5. Validate your communication with your **TRANSFORMATION**.

I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. (Ephesians 4:1, NIV)

Above all else, you must live in a way that brings honor to the good news about Christ. (Philippians 1:27, CEV)

6. Treat everyone with **RESPECT**.

...Always be ready to answer everyone who asks you to explain about the hope you have, but answer in a gentle way and with respect. (1 Peter 3:15-16a, NCV)

“Stay alert. This is hazardous work I’m assigning you...Be as cunning as a snake, inoffensive as a dove. (Matthew 10:16, The Message)

7. Prove you care by how you **SHARE**.

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” (Romans 10:13–15, NIV)

ACTION:
401 / CARNIVALS