

Jude

Pt. 2 – Avoid the Wrong People / Voices

Wrong Voices:

Difficult to detect.

Jude 11 “What sorrow awaits them! For they follow in the footsteps of Cain, who killed his brother. Like Balaam, they deceive people for money. And like Korah, they perish in their rebellion. ¹²When these people eat with you in your fellowship meals commemorating the Lord’s love, they are like dangerous reefs that can shipwreck you.”

Focused on themselves.

Jude 12 “They are like shameless shepherds who care only for themselves.”

Jn. 10:11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”

Lots of promises, but not a lot of results.

Jude 12 “They are like clouds blowing over the land without giving any rain.”

No evidence of the special relationship with God they claim to have.

Jude 12 “They are like trees in autumn that are doubly dead, for they bear no fruit and have been pulled up by the roots. ¹³They are like wild waves of the sea, churning up the foam of their shameful deeds. They are like wandering stars, doomed forever to blackest darkness.”

Right Voices:

Ahead of me in the spiritual journey; mature and fruitful.

Honest – want to make me better.

Loves me; caring.

Have done what I want to do; experienced.

Makes good decisions; they have wisdom.

Prov. 15:7 “Only the wise can give good advice.”

I have a heart connection.

Have character.

Faithful in their Christian walk; consistent.

Encourager; when I leave them, I feel better about myself.

Principle: If someone is critical about others to me, one day they will be critical about me to others.

1 Thess. 5:11 "...encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

Eph. 4:29 "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen."

Heb. 10:24 "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. ²⁵Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Prov. 12:26 "The righteous choose their friends carefully..."

Key Lesson: listening to the right voices is how I become a right voice.