

Spiritual Compromise

Objectives

To identify the causes of compromise and ways to deal with it

Scriptural Verse

“Trust in the LORD, and do good. Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness”

Psalm 37: 3

References

Dr. Charles Stanley – www.intouch.org

Lesson Guidelines

What is compromise? It is an agreement whereby a disagreement is settled. An evil compromise is when a person decides to act contrary to his beliefs and leads to sin.

A great example of this in the Holy Bible is Solomon who married from other nations even though he was forbidden to do so by God (1 Kings 11:1-12).

Other examples of compromise:

- Abraham lied about who his wife was (Genesis 20:1-2).
- Pilate compromised his principles and sent Jesus to the cross (Luke 23:1-25).
- Peter denied Jesus (Matthew 26:69-75).

What do people compromise?

- Morals
- Principles they know to be true
- Church life
- Doctrinal beliefs
- Issues with children
- Music
- Conversations
- Language
- Honesty
- Convictions and Biblical beliefs
- Purity

Nature of compromise

- Starts insignificant
- Leads to a slow slide
- Results in a more serious compromise
- It becomes difficult to go back
- Desensitizes the conscience

Reasons for compromise

- Fear
- Avoiding conflict
- Peer pressure
- The desire to gain attention and popularity
- Profit
- Pride
- The desire to get your way
- Discouragement
- Impatience with God
- Spiritual weakness

Consequences of compromise

- It weakens your character
- It affects your prayer
- It hurts your testimony
- It corrupts your thinking
- The truth becomes irrelevant
- You lose your credibility
- It leads to self destruction

Qualities of a person who does not compromise

- Strong conviction about his relationship with God
- Faith in God's promises
- Discerning spirit
- Courage to resist peer pressure
- Security in relationship with God
- Sense of direction
- Governed by principles
- Desires God's approval more than man's approval

How to Deal with Compromise

- Identify situations where you have compromised your moral or ideals
- Identify what feelings or desires compelled you to compromise
- Set priorities in your life – identify what is most important to you that cannot be compromised for any reason.
- Pray that God gives you strength of character and courage

Conclusion

Spiritual compromise is a common mistake that we fall in as Christians. We sacrifice our morals and beliefs for earthly rewards such as friends, money, or social status. Solomon was a great example of this. He continued in his compromise to the point that he was worshipping other gods. If we let compromise permeate our lives we will find ourselves far from the path of righteousness and living in sin. Therefore, we must know what our

priorities are in life and identify what weaknesses will lead to compromise in our life. We must then ask God for strength against it.

Activities/Discussion Points

1. What was Solomon's weakness that led him to compromise God's law?
2. Did his fall happen at one time?
3. What are some areas in our lives that we find it easy to compromise our morals?
4. Make a list of aspects of your life that should not be subject to compromise