



Part 9: *Pastor on the Hot Seat*

The whole "get rid of the leaven" idea doesn't seem to line up, to me at least, with Jesus' wholehearted acceptance and tolerance of all the sinners around him. Didn't Jesus accept everybody?

How should we interpret the principle behind Paul's teaching in 1 Corinthians 8:13 ("if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again") as it relates to alcohol consumption by Christians given the pervasiveness of alcoholism in our society? I would interpret this passage that as Christians we should not consume alcohol at all (in public or in private). What are your thoughts?

Can a Christian invoke the legal system in cases of divorce and abuse of children?

Is Paul's teaching in chapter 7 about a believing wife "sanctifying" her non-believing husband saying a non-believer can be saved just by marrying a believer? No need for their own relationship with Jesus? If so, why not date non-believers? That's good evangelism!

With the exception of divorce on the basis of adultery, the Bible calls re-marriage perpetual adultery for both divorced parties...That's pretty harsh. Can you talk to that?

Why are people born gay if God thinks it is wrong?

Isn't the Bible's prohibitions about gay sex a cultural issue, like women wearing head coverings?

Most things that are considered sins are those which are harmful to ourselves or to others, such as selfishness, anger, etc., which inhibit us from having the loving relationships that Jesus calls us to. Homosexuality, however, doesn't share this characteristic. It is not harmful to the people involved in the relationship or to the people around them. So why does the Bible treat it like a sin?

How would we respond to a same-sex couple with children joining our community? Would we tell them they have to break up their family in order to follow Jesus? Or could they participate fully as they are seeking to follow Jesus in the way they best understand that and as God leads them?

Wasn't Paul's rationale for remaining single that time was short? Does that still apply? Shouldn't we be getting married according to the creation mandate given to Adam and Eve? After all, God said it isn't good for the man to be alone.

Are you saying my boyfriend and I are supposed to be married to have sex and otherwise it's sinful? I must be hearing you wrong.

What if we're intending to be married someday? Can we start having sex now? After all, we consider ourselves married already in our hearts.

But seriously, are you **REALLY** saying we shouldn't have sex until we're married?

But isn't marriage a state of the heart rather than a legal document?

So on the topic of cutting your hair Bruxy.... How much would it take?