

Get It Out

by

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To many times we totally fail to see Satan living in our own lives. We tend to think we can hover over things that God has called sin, and because we are not directly involved in the activity we are ok. Richard Stevens III is a faithful preacher of the Gospel at the Hawn Freeway Church of Christ in Dallas TX. He had this to say in regard to allowing sin our lives through the means of the family:

"SAY "NO!!" TO SIN IN YOUR HOME. Tell family, friends, and grown children, NO!! You cannot come into my home drinking, cursing, fornicating, blaspheming, gossiping, gambling, and so on! Tell them you love them but you serve the Lord (Gen. 18:19; Josh. 24:15). Tell them you love them but you love God more (Mk. 12:30; Mat. 10:37). I believe they will respect you and God for it. I believe a Christian's influence is strong if we wield it. We are "written epistles/lights" of God Word (2 Co. 3:2; Mat. 5:16). What we do or not do can have a great impact on those around us. We are able to share Christ without a word (life), that may we afford us the opportunity to share Christ with a word (the Gospel; 1 Peter 3:15). I know of good Christians who have allowed their grown children to return and take over their home. I went to one older sister's home where her son was living off her/drinking/smoking/drugs/cursing her out, etc., and I evicted him myself. I mean I am not going to keep harping to grown people about what they need to do when I know they understand it, especially in regards to their family. Dealing with one's erring children is a difficult area for many. It takes prayers, patience, and understanding. I will interact with them as long as they want to interact with me (smile). But my position will not change. A child sinning in the home needs to stop or go, and the parent is the one that needs to make it happen. I am speaking mainly of a Christian parent that is faithful but is allowing a grown child in the home to live in sin. I believe that child and their activities will negatively affect the Christianity and influence of the parent. And I do not believe God is pleased since we have control over our own homes. The church is made-up of families. Faithful families contribute to a faithful church."

We need to remember that satan will use whatever tools he needs to get to us, because it is the faithful that he wants. He already has those that are aliens to the common wealth (Eph 2:12) living in sin, and especially the erring Christians living in sin. If he has them he will use them to work his bidding on the faithful. Satan will consider it a personal triumph to see YOU fall. Take note of Job. His own wife, his help meet (Gen 2:18, 20) working as a tool for satan (Job 2:9). If satan will use this for one that was "perfect, upright, and eschewed evil" (Job 1:1, 2:3), what will this roaring lion (1Pet 5:8) do to get to you? Be careful in all things: "But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things (Emph. Mine); That they may teach the young women (Emph. Mine) to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed. Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded (Emph. Mine). In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you (Emph. Mine) (Titus 2:1-8). Paul taught in Romans to get out of the sinning business. "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" (Rom 6:1-2). This includes getting our business out of sin.