



Christian Questions

TALK RADIO WITH A PURPOSE

You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:13

Dear Friend,

Thank you for writing us at Christian Questions Radio. You told us you were young, unmarried and believed yourself to be a follower of Christ. You said you began dating "someone who is not a believer, but is a good person." In a moment of weakness the two of you were physically intimate. You said you still grieve for your weakness and betrayal of the Father's laws and have asked forgiveness. However, you were not sure if that was enough.

You further stated that you love this person very much and wondered if a follower of Christ should marry a person he/she has been intimate with even though that person is not a believer.

You wanted to know if asking forgiveness for your sin of fornication was "enough." There are many scriptures that indicate that God forgives all manner of sin and shows mercy to the sinner. "Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the LORD'-and you forgave the guilt of my sin." (Psalm 32:5) "If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O LORD, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared." (Psalm 130:3- 4) "Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon." (Isaiah 55:7) "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

The above scriptures are clear that God forgives provided the sinner is repentant. Repentance means changing one's mind and actions for the better. Without a positive change of direction, there is no real repentance and, therefore, no forgiveness by God.

If you are truly repentant you are seeking to honor God and His laws in all aspects of your life, which brings us to your next question.

Should a follower of Christ marry a person he/she had been intimate with even though that person is not a believer? Being intimate with a person out of wedlock is a sin for which you have asked forgiveness. Repentance for that sin does not require you to marry that person. Repentance requires living a righteous life from this point forward. Therefore, you must honestly ask yourself if marrying the unbeliever would be beneficial to you spiritually as well as be pleasing to God. Is this the right decision for a follower of Christ? The Apostle Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 6:14, "Be ye not





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unequally yoked together with unbelievers for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness?" Although this directive may seem unfair, since you describe your unbelieving friend as "a good person who has a true desire to help others," nonetheless, the command has great merit and should be followed. A union between a believer and an unbeliever is bound to make the Christian's life of sacrifice more difficult since the unbeliever's objectives will be influenced by the world whereas the Christian's life will be totally God-centered as he/she strives to follow in the footsteps of His Son Jesus. "What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: 'I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.' Therefore, come out from them and be separate, says the Lord." (2 Corinthians 6:15-17)

Should a Christian believer marry a non-believer? If the Christian wants to follow the spiritual guidelines enumerated in the Bible, he/she should not. If you have asked forgiveness and repented, then you have made a commitment to follow and obey God's word. Since God loves you and rewards those who diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6), you may be sure that He will provide you with compensating blessings now and in the future. "Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand that he may lift you up in due time." (1 Peter 5:4)

We hope we have answered your questions.. Be sure to sign up for CQ Rewind at www.christianquestions.com. The service is free without obligation and will provide you with scriptural perspective on many questions and topics.

Sincerely,

Christian Questions Radio

