

The Memo and Necklace of a Christian

Proverbs 3:3-4 “Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man.” ESV

I don't believe the Devil is the most destructive element to Christianity, but Christians who let selfishness and hypocrisy gain foothold are. Romans 2:24 says, “God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you”, referring to people who claim they know God, but live critical, judgmental, and hypocritical lives.

It's easy to call others hypocrites, but are we willing to face our own hypocrisies?

Right now, if you're reading this article, and you've already listed in your head at least two or three of “those” hypocrites, did it ever occur to you that you might be too critical or judgmental?

I'll never forget the time a little boy came up and whopped our baby son on the head at a restaurant years ago. My wife and I made sure to give the parents of that boy an extra evil glare, and swooshed our victim child away with a flare. We sure made those people feel extra guilty, only to find that two years later, one of my own kids would do the same thing to a child in a high chair.

Love never fails (1 Corinthians 13). It's really that simple.

The Bible says to put love and faithfulness on like a necklace so when people see our face, they see that we are adorned with love, mercy, and truth. Notice it doesn't say to bind criticism and judgment on your neck, and to write hypocrisy on your heart.

This steadfast love is mercy and kindness that's so powerful; it shuts down hatred and selfishness. This faithfulness is grounded deep enough in truth; that it causes hypocrisy and falsehood to crumble.

Make sure your heart gets this memo.