



## *It Is a Big Deal*

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In the middle of my Christian journey, I came to a place of deep discontent. I felt there had to more to being a Christian, if there was not, then the journey didn't seem worth it. If there was more, what was it?

During this season, one day my husband and I invited a young couple to come to our home for supper and a movie. The day they were to come, we went out to get groceries for our company. When we returned, we found a note on the door. The note let us know that our guests could not come to eat dinner and they could not watch the movie with us or with anyone. They felt that because we were leaders in the church, we should not be watching it either, for the language was inappropriate,

My husband and I had not even noticed the language. At first, we thought, "Wow! they are bold!" Then we thought, "It's not a bad movie, and the words aren't that serious, sometimes they are funny." That night, as my husband and I watched the movie, we heard the cussing and inappropriate words, and our hearts were pierced. Somewhere along the line, we had become insensitive to what we were hearing. This young couple helped us to realize the influence a movie had on us. They also helped us understand the influence our lives have on others: what we watch, what we hear and how we act are a big deal!

Somehow, we believed reading the Bible, praying, leading in the church, and loving our neighbor was Godly living, and it may be, but if we fail to see and hear God's nudges, our testimony for Christ may not be worth much to those around us.

There was and is more to our Christian walk. Christ does not desire us to settle for less, but He wants us to seek after His highest and best. He desires a life that is pure and holy. As leaders, there may be times we receive such notes, and it will be hard. There may be times the Lord wants us to write such a note, that will be harder. When our hearts are open to saying, "Lord, your will be done!" the nudges of discontentment flee and Christ's peace reigns.

Phil 4:8

And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me— everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you