

I recently shared with a group of godly men a story about a Bible study I recently attended. After sharing this story with them I was asked if I would write it up to share with others. I absolutely believe this true event needs to be shared to bring to light what many of us know is happening in the Church and Christian community but may have not seen first-hand.

I had been invited by a man I was always under the impression lived for Christ. He had told me so many great things about this group of guys that meet on a weeknight, two of them being pastors who shepherd a Church here in the Las Vegas Valley. He told me he has never grown more in his life spiritually and had mentioned me and they were eager for me to join. They claimed they were serious about seeking Jesus while sharing the gospel with others. I prayed over the possible attendance and after several months was led to check them out. I was told the Bible study started at 6 pm and sometimes went until midnight. A wife of one of the men cooks a big meal and after dinner they get into scripture for hours. I was excited. It was presented as if every week they enjoyed a fantastic evening together in Christ. I have a rule that I don't go anywhere without my own transportation so I said I would meet there; an old Army habit I haven't been able to let go of. My friend was insistent I could catch a ride with him and after praying about it I agreed.

We arrived and as we walked in, I was introduced to the two men who pastor a Las Vegas church, the homeowner and two other men. One of the men was obviously homosexual, but I was told he wasn't practicing and abstaining. He did live with another man though. We spent some time with the introductions while finishing up with dinner as I looked forward to the spiritual growth we would have as a group in our time together.

We sat in the living room in a circle, and I noticed not one of the men had a Bible with them. One man opened up by saying to the homeowner "Where did your masturbation station go?" The younger Pastor commented that the table with his *Jergens* lotion and tissues were gone as well. Another chimed in stating the chair in front of the TV was perfectly placed for jerking off and why did his wife have to get a new couch and ruin his setup. This back and forth about the masturbation station lasted for 10 minutes before they all started bringing up inappropriate movie scenes that were related to pornography and/or masturbation. I was instantly in shock. They must have noticed my immediate change in body language and attitude as I closed my eyes to pray. I asked the Father WHAT IS THIS? WHAT IS HAPPENING FATHER? WHY AM I HERE?! I could not believe what I was hearing. The 5 men then started sharing stories about this week's masturbation time. The homeowner shared how he waited for his wife to fall asleep the night before then snuck downstairs with his phone to watch porn, but the dog started barking and interrupted. Another said he was in the shower that morning when he thought it felt like a good time to go at it, bringing in his phone beforehand. Another shared that he doesn't even care anymore and will start watching porn and masturbating right next to

his wife if she doesn't want to have sex. Yet another shared that he snuck down from the wife that day two different times to the basement to get on the computer for personal time. The younger so-called Pastor looked at me and said, "That is the way you make it through marriage jerking off like a 13-year-old boy." I was angry, confused and completely thrown off guard that this was occurring with no restraint. I interrupted to ask if this is how they start a Bible study normally to which I was told the prior week they discussed their favorite porn stars they enjoy watching. I quickly quoted Matthew 5:28 "but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart." How do all of you reconcile your conversation and actions with that scripture? I was given an instant response that Jesus was only making a point that no sin is any worse than any other. I excused myself to the restroom to pray. I told my Lord I have no idea why I am here, and I don't want to be here but while I am, please speak through me to help correct these men.

Cursing was present from the start of the evening and continued the whole time. The two "Pastors" then spent the next hour sharing how their ministry has taken them all over the world to lay hands on those who have evil spirits dwelling within. The older "Pastor" had separated from his wife of many years because he claimed their ministry drove a wedge in the marriage. As he discussed their relationship all the men joined forces and made jokes at her expense. I was searching for relevant scripture to end their sinful conversation, but they interrupted and did not listen to Biblical truth. They realized that I was in no way on board with any topic of conversation and was not going to sit idly while they acted in such a way, all in the room turned against me. The "Pastors" shared how this week they commanded several demons out of a woman in their congregation who had been possessed for years. It was uncomfortable to hear the accounts they claimed that Jesus touched them on the shoulder and told them He would give them powers to do His work here. I found it hard to reconcile how these men living in such blatant sin could be used by Jesus to cast out demons. I saw [Matthew 7:21-23](#) in living color!

The conversation moved on to what I thought would finally be a point where I could relate scripture in a manner they wanted to hear, but the conversation quickly turned to cheap Grace. The claim that they could live however they pleased in this temporal life, and that it is acceptable because the sin had already been paid for. John 3:16 was used as a free ticket into heaven in their minds. I interjected once again that obedience is absolutely necessary to Christ after He becomes your Lord and Savior. At this point the room fully turned against all Biblical truth and scripture I was sharing. I was told by one man that obedience was BS. The older "Pastor" echoed the statement and those are just the rewards you get after making it through the door. They started claiming the Apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 6:12 "All things are permissible for me, but not all things are profitable." They twisted this verse to enable themselves to live in sin and walk in darkness. I excused myself to the bathroom a number of

times to pray. Each time saying the same prayer that I might be of use while I was here as a servant. I couldn't come up with a reasoning within my own mind on why the Lord would have me in such a place. The conversation continued for hours with them interrupting and cutting me off the moment they saw me flip to another scripture to share. They continued to overpower the conversation in hopes they would be allowed to feel comfortable in what they were spewing. Eventually they ended up using the Scripture out of Luke 6:37 towards all of my efforts, "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; and do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; pardon and you will be pardoned." They had no desire to hear from me. We are commanded to correct other believers; we are to discipline out of love if we see another walking in a manner that is hurting their relationship with God or we are to edify. They absolutely disagreed with me as I was trying to make any Biblical points concerning correction. We had spent nearly 4 hours at this point in that living room and at midnight I was hopeful my Lord was through with using me there. I made a last-ditch effort and pulled out the flip phone from my pocket to make a point. I shared that there are individuals that have rid themselves of a smart phone and gone back to a basic flip phone because they don't wish sin to be so easily accessible. The response I got from one man was "I bet that flip phone would be a stumbling block... to be able to watch anything good on it."

As we left, I was relieved to breath fresh air. I could have left at any time on my own accord, but I was placed there after much prayer by my Lord for a reason. I felt defeated that I hadn't accomplished what in the Lord had sent me to do, by correcting those men. We got in the car, and I thought I would take the opportunity to try and work one-on-one with the man who drove me and thought so highly of this group of men. He quickly turned the conversation to how he just moved from Mexico with his wife and how he would shuttle his American friends down to the red-light district so they could meet up with prostitutes! Every chance I could find to put an end to it failed as it seemed he wanted to make a point that all sin in his mind was permissible to him since Christ has already paid the price on the cross for it. I arrived home at 12:30 am. I spent the rest of the night wide awake between prayer and replaying the evening, coming up with other scripture I could have shared or what I could have done differently to help any one of those men. The next day I reached out to several close brothers in Christ to share and seek counsel. The evening had exhausted me, and I felt as if I had failed Christ in some manner. I decided to reach out to another of the men who was at the event to see if I could, through Christ, reach them. Unfortunately, it was more of the same from the evening before. I didn't realize why Christ had led me to the event that evening or why I was led to stay until a faithful brother asked me to write this letter to share. We have all heard what the Church and Christian community is plagued with, but now I have witnessed it firsthand and can testify to the depravity. I fear what is happening behind closed doors is far worse than any one of us could imagine. I know I was placed there by Christ to share this with everyone who reads it, in hope it will open our eyes, use greater discernment and provoke a change.