

No Exception To The Rule

1 Cor 15:33-34

Don't be fooled. "Bad company ruins good character." Come to your senses! Live righteously and stop sinning! There are some people who lack knowledge of God – I say this to your shame.

As I listen to people who tell me how their growth was hindered by the bad influence of their friends, I try to convince myself that I am different from them, an exception to the rule. I try to tell myself that I have walked with God long enough and have become stable enough and can hear the whisper of the Holy Spirit clearly enough that I could spend any amount of time with any kind of person and remain unaffected. I would like to think that about myself. But when Paul wrote to the Corinthian's, "*Do not be misled,*" he was also writing to me. If I think I am an exception to this rule, I have been misled and deceived. I, like anyone else, will become like the people I choose to be close to. That's why I don't make that choice lightly.

APPLY: *Take time for some honest self-assessment. Are your closest friend's people you would like to emulate? Do you think that your friends won't have an influence on you? Are you misled?*



Blessings Pastor Bob Hill