

“LOVE EM ENOUGH TO TELL EM”

When Loving Someone Means Having the Hard Conversation

Sometimes loving someone means cheering them on.

Sometimes loving someone means standing beside them when life gets hard.

And sometimes, loving someone means saying something they **really don't want to hear**.

We live in a culture that often confuses love with approval. We can fall into the trap of thinking, *“If I really love them, I should support whatever they choose.”* But biblical love isn't always comfortable. Sometimes biblical love requires courage, honesty, humility, and even confrontation.

The question isn't simply, **“Do I have the right to say something?”**

The better question is:

“Do I love this person enough to say something—and am I the right person to say it?”

Jesus gave us an important warning in Matthew 7:1-5. Before we start pointing out the speck in someone else's eye, we need to deal with the log in our own.

That's the difference between **judgment and loving correction**.

Judgment says, *“Look how terrible you are.”*

Love says, *“I care about you too much to watch you destroy yourself.”*

Judgment condemns.

Love confronts with the hope of restoration.

James 5:19-20 reminds us that helping someone who has wandered away from the truth can actually be an act of saving love.

But here's the catch:

You don't confront someone because you're angry with them. You confront them because you care about them.

And before you do it, you pray.

You examine your own heart.

You make sure the issue is actually important.

You make sure you're the right person to address it.

And then, if you do speak, you speak **directly, honestly, and kindly.**

Nathan did exactly that with David.

David had made destructive choices, and God sent Nathan to confront him. Nathan didn't ignore David's sin. But he also didn't approach him with cruelty. He brought the truth into the light.

That's our challenge today.

Don't confuse being nice with being loving.

Sometimes the most loving thing you can say is, *"Friend, I love you, but I don't think this is good for you."*

And then comes the hardest part:

You have to remember that **you can tell someone the truth, but you cannot make their choices for them.**

You may not be able to save them from the consequences of their decisions.

Your responsibility is to love them, pray for them, speak truth when God gives you the opportunity, and leave the results in God's hands. **Remember This Love doesn't always say what people want to hear. Sometimes love says what they need to hear.**

Today's Prayer Lord, give me wisdom to know when I need to speak and when I need to stay silent. Help me examine my own heart before I confront someone else. Remove pride, anger, and judgment from my motives. If I need to have a difficult conversation, give me the courage to be honest, the humility to be gentle, and the love to make restoration—not condemnation—the goal. And remind me that I am responsible for being faithful, but You are responsible for the outcome. In Jesus Name We Pray, Amen.