

## Teen Topics

### Living in the World (Part 2)

One of the most difficult obstacles we face as we try to live for Christ is the constant pressures around us to conform to the ways of the world. How do these pressures impact you?

#### ***Going a Different Direction***

In a world focused on pleasing “self” and gratifying the “flesh,” our call to be light in the darkness demonstrates the dramatic difference that should be seen in the life of a believer ([Eph. 5:8](#)). Just as light and darkness do not mix, neither should the believer’s life with the way of the world (note [Eph. 2:1-10](#); [4:17-24](#)). The ultimate question we have to ask ourselves concerning the direction of our lives is, “What is our passion?” Our passion will drive the decisions we make. Caving into peer pressure or willingly doing whatever it takes to “fit in” only reveals that our passion for the world is greater than our passion for Christ. And just like light and darkness, these two passions cannot coexist ([1 John 2:15](#)).

> What does [Matt. 6:24](#) say concerning our passion for God?

It needs to be wholehearted; we cannot split our passions.

#### ***Standing Strong through the Pressure***

Our passion for God will bring about choices to live our lives for Him! In a world where living for God is not always popular, we must be prepared to stand strong when facing opposition:

> Determine to live for Christ and be committed to Him ([Joshua 24:15](#)).

> Establish yourself as a leader who sets the example, not a follower who gives into pressure ([1 Tim. 4:12](#)).

> Prepare yourself for each day ([Eph. 6:11](#)). Look to Christ for strength and wisdom to make good decisions.

As a believer, you must determine to make an impact for Christ on others, or else others will make an impact on you!