

How To Not Be Ruined by Peer Pressure

By Craig Cochran

(All scripture quotations are from the ESV)

Listen to 1 Cor. 15:33: *“Do not be deceived: ‘Bad company ruins good morals.’”* Now hear Proverbs 13:20: *“Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.”*

- **A person can be ruined by his peers.** Their pressure can lead into wrong and terrible ways because they are so called “friends”. Their pressure can ruin a person. The quote by Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:33 was probably first used from a Greek poet named Menander but it is also the message of the Old Testament. The scripture above says that *“...the companion of fools will suffer harm.”*
- **If a so called friend is disobedient to God, then they are not the best friend you can have.** A disobedient person opposes God’s will and His word. And a disobedient person does not have your best interest in mind. They think only of themselves first. 2 Corinthians 6:14-15 says this: *“Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever?”*
- **Decide who you are by first deciding who you belong to!** To choose to belong to Christ because He first loved you is to recognize the one who loves you the most. 1 John 4:19 says: *“We love because he first loved us.”*
- **Find your true friends among those who are obedient to Jesus.** Walking with the wise as in Proverbs 13:20 above, makes a person wise! We become like the people with are with. This is the truth that scripture is saying. We will become wise if we make those who love Jesus our friends. Why should we settle for anything less? Now we can go after those so called, friends as Jesus’ missionary. We can be a part in helping them come to Jesus who is their best friend because He died for them.