

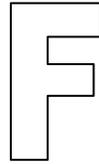


P-A-U-S-E Before You Act!

Calvary Baptist Church

11/13/2011

Proverbs 18:13



- I. **P – Pray** (Mt. 26:39) Have I taken this matter to the Lord in prayer and have I waited for His leading? Prayer Can Stop Us, Start Us, Steer Us.
- II. **A – Attitude** (1 Sam. 25:17; Prov. 3:7; 14:16; 16:32; 22:24; 25:28; 29:11) Have I waited until my emotions and my spirit are in check before I act?
- III. **U – Understand** (Proverbs 18:13) Have I taken the time to get an understanding of the matter from every angle, every perspective?
- IV. **S – Sin** (John 18:10-11; Mt. 26:51-52; Luke 22:50-51) Has God revealed that the action I am about to take is wrong?

V. E – Effect

Have I thought through the **effect(s)** that will result from my action?

A. Have I Considered the Effect Upon My Savior? (Ps. 78:40-42; Titus 2:14; Eph. 4:30; John 11:35; Rev. 5:6; 1 Thess. 2:11-12)

- Christ loves his children.
- How it must break his heart when they **fight**.

QUOTE: Lit., “stop grieving the Spirit.” The utterance of evil or worthless **words** is repugnant to the holiness of the Spirit, and is to be refrained from as calculated to **grieve** Him. *Word Studies in the Greek New Testament*

QUOTE: “Lamb slain” (Rev. 5:6) I would take that to mean that the prints of the nails are **visible** in His hands. The wound in his side is visible. The piercings of His feet are visible. The scars from the crown of thorns are visible. As he looks down at **me**, and then back to the **scars**, I don’t want Him to wonder if His sacrifice was **worth** it! *lkw*

When I sin against my **brother**, I grieve the heart of my **God!**

B. Have I Considered the Effect Upon Sinners?

- When I act, the world is watching, and what I do can **harm** the cause of Christ!

1. The Demand (Ps. 39:1; Mt. 5:16; Philip. 2:14-16; 1 Thess. 5:22; 1 Pet. 2:9)

- God demands that the believer maintain a pure **testimony** before the world.

2. The Defense (Titus 2:6-8; 1 Peter 3:13-17)

- When we sincerely live out our faith, it **silences** the critics of faith

3. The Demonstration (John 13:35; John 17:21)

- My treatment of my brother is a testimony to the world of the **reality** of my faith.

QUOTE: If Christ makes no obvious difference in the life of the believer, the world has the right to ask the question, “Why then do I need to **commit** my life to **Christ?**”

4. The Decisions (1 Peter 2:9-12; 1 Peter 3:1; cf. Titus 2:10)

- Our lives may be a motivation for **sinner**s to come to the faith.
- When we sincerely live out our faith, our lost **loved ones** may be won to the Lord.
- When we sincerely live out our faith, our **co-workers** may come to Christ.

QUOTE: Paul admonished Titus (2:10) to teach the servants that, by their faithful **service** to their masters, they could “**adorn** the doctrine of God.”