



Christians are known for what we _____ NOT who we love!

Example set by Jesus:

- A. Jesus came to _____ NOT to condemn.
- B. Jesus stepped out of the _____.
- C. Jesus was _____ in practical ways.
- D. Jesus didn't compromise or cast stones-He _____ space.

Understand:

Many do NOT choose orientation	God loves you
There is no simple or single reason	All have brokenness to deal with
There is no "one-size fits all" response	Attraction and actions are different
Orientation alone does not define a person	Orientation change - maybe
Nobody's excluded from God's free gift	Jesus is way, truth, and Life

Practical:

1. Ask _____ are you asking that question?
2. Affirm _____ with both body language and listening.
3. Affirm that _____ people matter deeply to God - not excluded.
4. Admit you have _____
5. Admit you don't have all the _____
6. _____ for misrepresentation of Jesus.
7. Put energy into following _____ example.

Challenge: *Can we live in the "tension" to create space for Jesus?*

2 Timothy 2:24-26 (NIV)

24And the Lord's servant must *not quarrel*; instead, he *must be kind to everyone*, able to teach, *not resentful*. 25Those who oppose him he *must gently instruct*, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, 26and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.

John 3:17 (NIV)

17For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

John 1:14 (NIV)

14The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Acts 10:38 (New Living Translation)

38 And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

John 8:2-11 (NIV)

2At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. 3The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group 4and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. 5In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" 6They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. 7When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." 8Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

9At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. 10Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

11"No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 (NIV)

9Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders 10nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Colossians 4:5-6 (NIV)

5Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. 6Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.