



Refuse to Compromise Robert Morris

Focus God wants us to refuse to compromise to the culture. One way we refuse to compromise is by repenting, which means changing the way we think. When we change our thinking, we can be ready to refuse to compromise our humility, integrity, and purity. God wants to give us His grace to refuse compromise and stand firm.

Fun What is your favorite fall tradition?

Review Key Scriptures: Revelations 2:12–17; Isaiah 14:12–15

1. Refuse to compromise your humility. (Pride)

Satan's throne is pride. Pride always wants to be exalted above others. Don't fall for the lie that getting to "the top" or earning a lot of money leads to happiness and fulfillment. This lie will tempt you to promote yourself above others. The root of pride is insecurity. The way to not be prideful is to not be insecure, and the way to not be insecure is to be secure through an intimate, loving relationship with God. Our identity is not what we do but who we are in Jesus.

2. Refuse to compromise your integrity. (Idolatry)

The doctrines of Balaam and the Nicolaitans are idolatry and immorality. Ephesus and Pergamum had to combat the theology of the Gnostics which was the worship of knowledge and intellectualism, similar to worshipping science. These people believed they had knowledge the Church didn't have. They also believed there was no connection between the body and the spirit, and because of this, they sinned by eating food that was sacrificed to false gods and slept with the temple prostitutes. Don't let knowledge become your god, and don't

participate in sexual immorality. God doesn't want us to compromise our integrity to get ahead or feed our insecurity.

3. Refuse to compromise your purity. (Immorality)

Balaam in the Bible was an evil man. He was hired by King Balak to curse Israel, but God caused him to bless Israel instead. Our tendency is to think that God is mad at us, but He isn't. Jesus took the wrath of sin upon Himself when He died on the cross for us. God wants us to know how much He values and loves us. When we have a revelation of how loved we are by God, we will refuse to compromise our purity.

Group Dynamics Idea Be sensitive to the dynamics of your group. Make sure your conversations are inclusive and encourage people wherever they are in their journey of life. Look for opportunities to pray for and support each other.

Discuss

1. Why does pride want to lift itself above everything and everyone else?
2. How are pride and insecurity connected?
3. What does it mean to be secure, and how do we find true security?
4. How does being secure help us resist pride? What is one practical way to refuse pride?
5. Why does the enemy want us to compromise our integrity?
6. What is an example of a way we can refuse to compromise our integrity? Have you had an experience where you've walked in integrity, and you've seen God bless you?
7. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this message?

Take Home

As we conclude, remember the following:

- Refuse to be proud.
- Refuse to worship knowledge.
- Refuse to compromise your purity.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, help us have ears to hear You and grace to obey You. Holy Spirit, help us listen to what You are saying to us today. Thank You that You

Speak to each of us about what we need. Thank You that You love us, value us, and turn curses into blessings in our lives. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Gateway desires to come alongside church members during times of unexpected hardship. Benevolence serves members who have exhausted their financial resources. If a member in your group is going through a difficulty, connect them with Gateway Care Ministry.