**Building Core Strength**

**You Can’t Do That[[1]](#footnote-1)**

**Luke 5:12-6:11**

**Psalm 37:4** - *Delight yourself in the Lord…*

**John 1:14-16** - *And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. John testified about Him and cried out, saying, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.’ ” For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.*

**Philippians 3:7-10** - *But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death.*

**Luke 6:40** - *A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher.*

**Psalm 40:8** - *I delight to do Your will, O my God; Your Law is within my heart.*

**Psalm 119:16** - *I shall delight in Your statutes; I shall not forget Your word.*

**Psalm 119:47** - *I shall delight in Your commandments, which I love.*

3 steps to confidently serving God even when others think you shouldn’t

**I. Understand the Things People Said Jesus Couldn’t Do**

A. You can’t touch a person who is unclean

“Leprosy attacks the skin, peripheral nerves (especially near the wrists, elbows, and knees), and mucus membrane. It forms lesions on the skin, and can disfigure the face by collapsing the nose and causing folding of the skin (leading some to call it “lion’s disease” due to the resulting lionlike appearance of the face). Contrary to popular belief, leprosy does not eat away the flesh. Due to the loss of feeling (especially in the hands and feet), people with the disease wear away their extremities and faces unknowingly. The horrible disfigurement caused by leprosy made it greatly feared, and caused lepers to be outcasts, cut off from all healthy society, for protection.”[[2]](#footnote-2)

**Luke 5:12** - *Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.*

**Luke 5:13** - *And He stretched out His hand and touched him, saying, “I am willing; be cleansed.” And immediately the leprosy left him.*

**verse 17** - *“one day”*

B. You can’t say that a person’s sins are forgiven

**Luke 5:17** - *One day He was teaching; and there were some Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem…*

**Luke 5:20** - *Seeing their faith, He said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven you.”*

**Luke 5:21** - *The scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, “Who is this man who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?”*

**Luke 5:24-26** - *“But, so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,”—He said to the paralytic—“I say to you, get up, and pick up your stretcher and go home.” Immediately he got up before them, and picked up what he had been lying on, and went home glorifying God. They were all struck with astonishment and began glorifying God; and they were filled with fear, saying, “We have seen remarkable things today.”*

C. You can’t eat and drink with sinners

**Luke 5:31-32** - *And Jesus answered and said to them, “It is not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”*

D. You can’t enjoy the pleasures of life

**Luke 5:34** - *And Jesus said to them, “You cannot make the attendants of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you?”*

E. You can’t challenge our religious traditions

**Luke 6:5** - *And He was saying to them, “The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.”*

F. You can’t show unrestrained compassion

**Mark 3:5** - *After looking around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, He said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored.*

**II. Understand Reasons People Say You Can’t Do That**

A. Your compassion on those in need might convict others of their indifference

**Matthew 5:16** - *Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.*

B. Your focus on Scripture alone may undermine their legalistic additions

**Galatians 5:1** - *It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.*

C. Your focus on the importance of forgiveness might convict them of their same need

D. Your innovation might challenge their religious traditions and preferences

**III. Understand the Things People Say We Can’t Do**

A. You can’t educate your child in a faith-based fashion

B. You can’t counsel people with difficult challenges from the Bible

**2 Timothy 2:24** - *The Lord’s bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged,*

1. Steve Viars [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. John MacArthur, Luke 1-5, p. 313 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)