

Possible Challenges of Living Faith Out At Work

Living faith out can be contagious when it is respectful of others. I acknowledge that living faith out at work has possible consequences when the environment is anti-faith or against a particular faith you seek to live out. There can be consequences also if your style is found or perceived to be offensive, disrespectful, arrogant and rude. I would like to share with you Erica Flora's experience with two Christians before presenting some of the challenges.

Erica Flora wrote "Strong faith determines your decisions and behavior at work. Many years ago, I worked for a man who showed his quiet faith through his actions and integrity, and everyone that worked for him held him in the highest regard. While working in his group, I fell very sick, and he stayed with me in the hospital until my family was able to fly in and be with me. He was completely selfless, and I still remember this man's kindness 10 years later. However, talking about your faith without the actions to back it up is unacceptable in the work place. I worked for another boss that used to do this in an attempt to save those around him and it made everyone that worked for him extremely uncomfortable. As a result, he did more damage than good in the workplace."

Some of the possible challenges include:

- Loss of job, position, service or customer
- Loss of promotional opportunities or stunted career growth
- Persecution in different forms
- Being shunned, ostracized, ignored, jeered at, ridiculed, 'set-up' to fail etc.
- Verbal abuse and insults
- Looked down upon, treated as an inferior etc.

To overcome some of these challenges, the following could be considered:

- Use wisdom and caution with due regard for company policies and procedures
- Be respectful and not offensive
- Be sensitive to conflict or tension between policies and Christian values and ask the Holy Spirit for direction
- Walk in obedience to God's leading and direction

I would love to read about your experience with living your faith out at work – pleasant or unpleasant.

Have a blessed day.

