Shrink or Share?
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Oh NO! Just look at it! I held up my favorite knit top that accidentally got dried in the clothes dryer. The heat made it shrink! Now 5 sizes smaller, it is no longer useful to me. And it had brought me so much pleasure before! Then I pulled out another top and smiled. It looked great! It held its shape and size with the heat removing the wrinkles. The heat helped it!

Did you know that Christian educators can be like these tops? At school where there are many unbelievers and the heat of persecution might possibly arise, Christian educators choose whether to actively share or not share the love of Jesus Christ with their pre-Christian colleagues. This choice reveals their heart towards loving God and loving others.

Many Christian educators, who boldly reach out to their pre-Christian colleagues with the love of Jesus Christ, know it is legal to share one’s faith adult to adult at school during non-instructional time. Not only have they learned at the LIFE training seminars how to live their faith at school in positive, practical and legal ways, but actually are implementing these strategies and tools at school daily.

Unfortunately, some Christian educators crippled with fear shrink from sharing Christ with their co-workers. Fear of man, rejection, and the possible lack of provision cause them to be invisible, silent, and closet Christians. Several years ago they may have led some educators to Christ, but now do not since they became sole providers. They even say, I would not want it getting back to my boss I share Christ with educators. So they do not. The fear of lack prevails. In reality, they do not trust God as their provider. They are bound with fear about the possible trials they may encounter.

If only they would choose to walk with God through the fire like the three Hebrews did in Daniel 3 in the Bible. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were told to bow down and worship the golden image or be thrown in the fiery furnace. They had had to choose whom they would serve – this image or the Most High God. Did they shrink back, cower, or back down? No. They obeyed the word of God above the word of the king. So in the fire they went. But they were not alone. God was with them. God used this trial to 1) test what is in the heart, 2) reveal He is in the middle of the test, 3) burn off the bonds in the fiery furnace, and 4) show His power. Struggles are allowed by God today, too, for the same reasons.

In Acts 4 Peter and John were told not to speak in the name of Jesus Christ. Did they shrink back from fear of what might happen if they did? They went to other believers and prayed for boldness to speak in the name of Jesus Christ. They did not just stop with prayer. They put feet to their prayers and acted their faith out.

Read:
Hebrews 10:38-39 But my righteous one shall live by faith; and if he shrinks back, My soul has no pleasure in him. But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.

Acts 20:20, 27 ...how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you publicly and from house to house…For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God.

Revelation 12:11 They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.

Prayer Areas:
- Pray for the Christian educators at my school to NOT shrink back, but to have faith in God and share the GOOD NEWS?

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**My Journal**

Consider taking a few minutes and reflect on the questions below to determine whether you shrink back or share:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Am I only a Sunday Christian and leave Jesus outside the schoolhouse doors Monday through Friday?</td>
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<td>2. Do I lack boldness in sharing Christ with other non-Christian educators?</td>
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<td>3. Do I let the fear of losing my job restrict me from sharing Jesus with my colleagues?</td>
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<td>4. Do I shrink back or share with my pre-Christian colleagues?</td>
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<td>5. Will I pray for the Christian educators at my school to NOT shrink back, but to have faith in God and share the GOOD NEWS?</td>
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