Philippians 2:12

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

When you are at work and the boss is around, do you work really hard appearing to be a good worker, but as soon as he or she is gone, do you just kick back and relax barely doing anything? Some people are like that, but the boss really knows who the good workers are, and those who are not by the way they work when he or she is not around.

But we tend to be the same with our Christian walk, when we are at church we put on our Sunday best for the Lord, making sure we are smiling and happy and praising Him. But as soon as we leave the parking lot, we are back to our old selves again, angry and miserable people, questioning God all the time.

But just like our bosses, God knows who really loves Him and who really serves Him by the way we act when we are not in church and other Christians are not around.

- **Matthew 25:44-45** ***Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.'***

I know personally, God had me in a place that He trusted me to do the right thing. For 6 years, I used to travel and literally lived in hotels for my job. I am talking months or even a few years at a time. Traveling to other states where no one knew me and I could do whatever I wanted, with whoever I want to. I could watch on tv or my computer or cell phone or read whatever I wanted as well.

But I chose to be obedient to the Lord instead of partying, drinking and sleeping with women or watching nudity and porn in these hotels. I simply prepared myself for where I was going to, by first looking for a church near where I was working at, then I would go and get involved in the church and the lives of the people, even if I was only going for a short time. Why, simply because I love the Lord and I know that He would not be pleased if I did these bad things, even though no one else would know. I would know and I also know that God had put me in a place that maybe twenty years ago I wasn't ready for. But I am now, because He has put me in that place where some men, or even women could not do.

What the freedom that the Lord given you that you, are taking advantage of and using it to sin, thinking that no one else knows and you may even use the excuse *"Well, I'm not hurting anyone"*. What about God and even yourself? It could be that the Lord has not advanced you to that place where you want to be, because you are not faithful with the freedom He has given you now?

- ✞ **Matthew 25:20-21** ***So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.' His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'***

A real man or woman of God is not one who does things for everyone to see, but is rather one who does not do certain things, even if others can not see. Your integrity and relationship with Jesus is so great that you wouldn't want to do anything that would not be pleasing to Him.

Maybe you have been doing things in secret that no one knows about, and the Holy Spirit may be speaking to you right now. If that's the case, simply confess whatever it is to the Lord, and repent (stop doing it), and the Lord will forgive you, even if you have done it 420 times already.

- ✞ **Matthew 18:21-22** ***Then Peter came to Him and said, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven."***

- ✞ **1 John 1:9** ***If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.***

- ✞ **Matthew 6:3-6** ***But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly. "And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.***