

Christian Narcissists

Today's podcast is about so called "Christian Narcissists".

Over the last few years, I have heard the term "Christian narcissists" used repeatedly. It is used to describe people who are either active in their church or professing to be Christians, yet they also exhibit narcissistic behavior. Most commonly, these people are covert narcissists who revel in appearing martyr like in their life, giving to & doing for those who are "beneath" them somehow.

The problem is there is no such thing as a Christian narcissist. There are narcissists who pretend to be good & even Godly people, but they truly aren't Christians. Labeling these people as such turns people away from Christianity.

These narcissists may be a bit hard to spot at first. They are busy doing for others, even sometimes at their own expense. They may donate large sums of money or spend great amounts of time volunteering. People speak highly of them for all that they do for others. Yet, if you look below the surface, you can see hints that show these people aren't the saints they portray themselves to be.

First & foremost, Christians openly trust in Jesus as the Messiah, their personal Savior. "Christian narcissists" may claim to do this, but their behavior says otherwise. They don't readily admit that they have a need for a Savior. They don't credit answers to their prayers to God. They may even make it sound like the reason God answers their prayers & loves them is because they are such wonderful, special people who give so much of themselves to others rather than the truth, which is Jesus is the Savior for anyone who is willing to believe in Him, according to John 3:16.

Another sign of a "Christian narcissist" is that this person doesn't brag about God. If you listen to these people long enough, you will see that their so called humility is peppered with bragging. They subtly mention how they have been such a blessing to someone else by taking them food or giving money. They even may brag about the accomplishments of someone else in a way that makes them appear to deserve credit. But, they don't say things like, "You won't believe what God has done for me!" "I am so grateful that God did this thing for me!" "I couldn't have done that thing without God helping me or showing me what to do!" The Bible says in Jeremiah 9:23-24 that we are to brag not of our wisdom or other things, but only about God.

"Christian narcissists" may say all the right things, but their behavior doesn't match up with their words. A person's behavior tells you much more than their words do. Matthew 7:20 in the New Living Translation says, "**Yes, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions.**" True Christian people won't simply recite Scripture. They do their best to live it. They make mistakes but admit that & they try to make things right whenever possible. "Christian narcissists" don't behave that way.

“Christian narcissists” are very good at twisting Scripture to suit their agenda. They also have the uncanny ability to quote Scriptures in such a way that it lines up with their views rather than God’s. This is very dangerous territory for a person to enter into, yet narcissists have no trouble doing so. 2 Corinthians 11:14-15 in the Amplified Bible states, ***“And no wonder, since Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. ¹⁵ So it is no great surprise if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness, but their end will correspond with their deeds.”***

If you see someone acting in similar ways, be on your guard around this person, even if others claim this person is a good person. Behaviors like this are red flags that this person is a narcissist rather than the good Christian person they claim to be.

Thank you for listening to my podcast!