

POWERLINE #4

s: when the storms of life toss you around, what have you got to hold onto?

hello, im shereen holier and i'm dave clark.

d: grab onto the powerline. on today's show, we poke our noses into peer pressure.

s: how does it affect you, your attitudes and lifestyle?

d: how can you tell what's right, what's wrong and what's what?

s: powerline takes to the streets to find out.

d: some great music moves us along so hang on tight.

s: michael w. smith with a song about making choices. "go west youngman" on powerline.

d: and we're your hosts, dave and shereen. sometime back when we began "fiddiling" with the concept for powerline, it became obvious that young people needed an outlet to express their dreams and hopes, frustration and fears. life is so much more complicated today than it was even 5-10 years ago.

s: in the best of times, it's often hard to know what's right, what's wrong, and what's what. powerlines purpose is to listen and to offer help in sorting out the fact from the fiction. you're faced with tough decisions everyday and our goal is to enable you to make wise choices.

d: judging from powerlines street talk the pressure is certainly on.

boy 1: i just think that a big problem in teenagers is peer pressure. when you know everybody else is doing it and your parents say "dont follow the group" and you say yeah, yeah, i'll listen to you. but then when it comes down to the crunch, and everybody's saying c'mon do this, do this, youre under and tremendous amount of pressure and sometimes you just crack and you go with the group, but you know it's wrong.

girl 1: most people, they go out because their friends want them to go out to all these clubs and things.

girl2: and then they start drinking and smoking because their friends want them to

boy 1: i think that one of the things that young people are facing today is what to believe and what they should stand up for because so many people they dress certain ways so they can be accepted into certain groups of people but they're not sure if that's what they support or that's what they beleive. i think people wanna know what they stand for and it's the choice of what they want to believe and it's difficult.

d: you're on the powerline

d: music from code of ethics, "worldmachine"

s: before that, greg X. volz, and standing for what he know's to be true.

d: and we're your hosts, dave and shereen. problems of peer pressure present themselves on today's powerline.

s: so, how do you know what's right, what's wrong and what's what when peer pressure begins to mount. well powerline's problem panel has a 6 point test that you can apply to work through that next stressful situation you find yourself are you ready for it? here goes:

d: first, does the action you plan to take make sense to you? nevermind whatever else anyone else has to say. if it sounds right to you, it probably is.

s: second, does your plan pass the test of fair play? in other words, if everyone else followed the same course would the results be good for all?

d: third, where will your plan of action lead? how does it affect others? what'll it do to you?

s: fourth, will you think well of yourself when you look back at what you've done? will there be feelings of pride or shame?

d: fifth, try to seperate yourself from the problem. pretend the problem belongs to the friend you admire most.

s: make sure that that's not the person you think or pretend to like the most.

d: that's right, not the neighbourhod pot head. how would that person handle it? the person we're talking about may be the head girl or head boy of that school.

s: sixth, hold up your final decision to the test of publicity. do you want your family or friends to know about what you've done. the decisions we hope no one will find out about are usually wrong.

d: well there you go, six questions you can ask yourself when deciding your plan of action. they're good, they're solid and they work. they tell you what's right, what's wrong and what's what.

s: do you know, we went through that list really quickly. i bet if you write to us though, dave will be happy to send you a nice little card copy that you can refer to again and again. girl's stick it on your bathroom mirror, that's a good place.

d: and guy's you could do that too. and maybe you'd like to request one for a friend.

s: they'll put it on their bathroom the mirror.

d: we'll tell you how to get one shortly. i think the 6 points we just talked about came out right of the bible. the same thing is there but in slightly different words.

s: the good book is the best place to turn for wisdom when we need it. powerline's problem panel knows that too. they look first to format advice for listeners who ask for it.

d: maybe you've got a problem that is so far defied a solution. powerline's problem panel stands ready to offer you a quick, confidential reply. listen up for the address you can write to, we'll give it at the end of the show.

s: the problem panel, also known as the wise guys, advise to walk with the wise.

s: steven curtis chapman knows on powerline.

d: from the great adventure cd, steven curtis chapman and "walk with the wise."

s: many people know steven curtis chapman as a grammy award winning singer and songwriter. he's also a man of faith and humility which is refreshing in the world of pop music superstars. in fact, his wife mary beth says that steven curtis is the same off stage as he is on.

d: backstage, powerline asked chapman how he handled peer pressure growing up.

scc: i was very fortunate because i had a family that were very much my friends. my older brother and father were probably my best friends. i spent time talking with them about whatever i was going through, whatever i was facing. and i say very fortunate in that way because that's not the case for many kids growing up, especially today. but aside from that relationship, i had friends that i surrounded myself with, and that's why the reason for songs like "walk with the wise." i've come to realize now, even as an adult, the guys you see sitting over here, they're in my van, but they're some guys that are very important in my life because they are guys that will help keep me accountable to the things that i say are important and it's important for me to honor my commitment to Christ privately when a crowd of people isn't around. these guys know that so these are the guys that will come to me and say "hey, let's pray about this." or i can go to them and say "hey, i'm having a hard time with this, can you talk to me about it." and that's especially important, i think for teenagers and for kids growing up.

d: "got to be true", steven curtis chapman on powerline.

d: well a rapper he is not, but steven curtis chapman does know a thing or two about life. recently, on tour in south africa, he tells powerline one of his biggest concerns about young people today.

scc: we're experiencing the death of conscience in young people. just the sense of anything right or wrong, everything becomes relative, whatever you decide is right for you. and the toll that that takes, we're beginning to experience now and when we decide there are no absolutes, and when we kinda wanna stick the bible away and say you decide it's ok for you and nevermind, this. God has said certain things are right and certain things are wrong. he does that because he's a loving creator and a caring father. he doesn't want us to destroy ourselves and i think now we need friends and we need people around us who will help remind us of that because the world around us will not remind us of that. I think it's important to have people around as friends who have the same convictions that we do. and they may not be the coolest friends or the people who may make us look the best but they are people ultimately in our lives that are going to help us walk a path that will please God and ultimately will be the best path for us to take.

d: that's the husband and wife team, scott and kristine dente' who call themselves "out of the grey." and their song "steady me." and thanks to steven curtis chapman for chatting with us and the song "got to be true."

s: i've got to be sure that he's back on another show cause we're out of time for this week.

d: peer pressure has been our focus and if you'd like a free copy of our 6 point test to better decision making, hop on over to our website, the powerline.net, for a list of music used on today's show as well as some other helpful resources. also if you need help confidentially on any subject write the wise guys at the powerline.net and we'll get back to you right away. for shereen holier, this is Dave Clark. see you next week!