

Stand Firm

1 Pet. 4:1-5

You Can Say “No”

- **Do not fool yourself into thinking you have no choice - Acts 5:7-9**
- **The terms “decline” and “refuse” have different connotations, sure, but the result is still the same - Gen. 39:7-10**
- **Not only can we say “no”, but at times we *MUST* say “no”! - 2 Tim. 2:19-23**

You Do Not Have to Negotiate

- **Typically this is sought after when someone does not agree - John 18:38-19:6**
- **And there is something to be said about being open-minded - James 3:16-18**
- **But compromise is not always necessary; in fact, when it comes to doctrine, it is unacceptable! - Eph. 4:11-14**

Taking A Stand Has Consequences

- **Truth is divisive - Matt. 10:34-36**
- **And when we do not go along with whatever those around us say & do, they react - Eph. 5:7-14**
- **But take heart, because the good far outweighs the bad - Matt. 5:10-12**

Conclusion

We must strive to be kind and agreeable, but that does not mean we cannot object to things or must join in with them. Be comfortable saying “no”! Those around you may speak ill of you for it, but that likely says more about them than it does of you. Most importantly, stand firm in the gospel of Christ!