

Facebook Friend Rules

If someone wants to be my Facebook friend (or wants me to be theirs), there are certain limits or parameters (aka rules) that, for conscience sake, I feel I must adhere to. Because Facebook is a digital medium it may not seem to be "real life" and thus it may seem that we can do things here that we would not actually do or talk about in "real life". However, the truth is that all of our communication -- at all times -- is in fact the genuine overflow of our hearts. So if someone who is my Facebook "friend" decides to post any of the following, our Facebook profiles will likely have to part ways...

1. Content that openly and actively slanders God or God's Name
2. Content that teaches people to break the commandments of God
3. Sexually explicit, suggestive, or immoral photos or content (including innuendo)
4. Profanity and coarse talking or joking
5. Photos or content favorably depicting recreational chemicals such as drugs and alcohol
6. Photos or content favorably depicting the degradation and destruction of the human body (including body piercing, tattoos, cutting, bondage, dismemberment, murder, etc.)

It's pretty simple. If someone decides to openly distribute these things, I would prefer not to have access to their Facebook profile, or "befriend" such activity. That doesn't mean I don't like the person or will not continue praying for them, but sometimes a person's actions can separate them from people that love them. So I do not desire to offend or contend about such things. People can do as they please. But in actively engaging in such things, others should not expect to take me along with them. If, in the end, it turns out that I have no Facebook friends, then I'll just have to count the cost and endure digital loneliness. :-)

"You have already lived long enough like people who don't know God. You were immoral and followed your evil desires. You went around drinking and partying and carrying on. In fact, you even worshiped disgusting idols. Now your former friends wonder why you have stopped running around with them, and they curse you for it. But they will have to answer to God, who judges the living and the dead." (1 Peter 4:3-5 CEV)

"You can be certain that in the last days there will be some very hard times. People will love only themselves and money. They will be proud, stuck-up, rude, and disobedient to their parents. They will also be ungrateful, godless, heartless, and hateful. Their words will be cruel, and they will have no self-control or pity. These people will hate everything that is good. They will be sneaky, reckless, and puffed up with pride. Instead of loving God, they will love pleasure. Even though they will make a show of being religious, their religion won't be real. Don't have anything to do with such people." (2 Timothy 3:1-5 CEV)

"Blessed is the one not condemning himself in what he approves." (Romans 14:22 LITV)