

How Do I Love Someone Who's In CrazyWorld Without Going Back There Myself?

12th Step - Lesson 3

Step 12: "Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps we tried to carry this message to alcoholics and to practice these principles in all our affairs."

I want to show love and care to hurting people, and at the same time take care of myself (which means not getting sucked into someone else's insanity). How?

2 Corinthians 5:14-17—Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!
[Maybe I used to use people. Now I want to love them, just like Jesus loves me]

Luke 6:27-31—"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you."

["Love your enemies" without ignoring the fact that they ARE your enemies and mean you harm. "Do to others as you would have them do to you"... If you were being manipulative or abusive, don't you want someone to call you on it and not let you get away with it?]

Philippians 1:9-11—And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best...

[Love needs KNOWLEDGE, INSIGHT, and DISCERNMENT. It's not mushy sentimentality and tolerance]

Galatians 6:1-5—Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, for each one should carry his own load.

[If someone is trying to get you to pull his share of the load besides your own share, the loving thing to do is not to let them get away with it]

What else?