

# Does God Care If I Snort Cocaine?

**Introduction:** Father-son radio commercial in which Dad asks son what he knows about drugs. After telling, Dad asks him where he learned so much about drugs. "From my friends, Dad" he responds. Not only as parent myself, but preacher of the Word Of God, I need to talk to young people about drugs.

## I) Drugs Themselves Are Not Evil

### a) Drugs can often have medicinal purposes.

- \* I am so happy there is aspirin today! Those with migraines appreciate it more than me!
- \* Morphine - Merciful to those in agony
- \* Novacaine (Cocaine base) at the dentist.
- \* Thank God for antibiotics, penicillin and the like.
- \* Anti-psychotic drugs to calm and control the mentally ill.
- \* Drugs like Prozac and lithium to help balance the chemical imbalances in the brain.
- \* Ritalin for attention deficit disorder and hyperactivity (although some debate about how wise it is to give to children since a major component is cocaine, a stimulant, and addictive)
- \* Even Bible teaches a little wine for stomach ailments and other infirmities might be on order. Of course today, the alcohol is often already in the medicine we buy.

### b) Three basic categories

- \* stimulants (uppers, speed, amphetamines, etc.) - produces a high, euphoria, through altering the brain, accelerating the heart, etc.
- \* depressants (downers, Quaaludes, painkillers, etc.) - produces a low, numbness, forget all your cares mood.
- \* hallucinogens (certain mushrooms, LSD, etc.) - produces images, unrealistic abilities, paranoia, etc.
- \* Some come from plants (marijuana, cocaine - coca plant, heroin - opium in Afghanistan)
- \* Some are synthetic chemicals (percocodan, Xanax, oxyContin, etc.)
- \* Typically taken through either, smoking, snorting, intravenously, orally

## II) Does God Care? (Only place to find out is the Bible! \* Five Bible questions to ask)

**1. Is cocaine addictive?** Yes. And it's purified form ("Crack") extremely addictive. The amount needed to reach the same level of high has to be increased.

- \* Bible: I Cor. 6:12; I Cor. 9:25-27; I Thess. 4:3-4
- \* Medical professionals greatly concerned about too much morphine
- \* People can get hooked, become dependent, strong cravings, experience extreme withdrawals during detoxification programs, etc.
- \* Alcohol is an addictive drug - I Tim. 3:3,8; Tit. 1:7
- \* Others; caffeine in coffee, sodas (Jolt), nicotine in tobacco products, etc.
- \* Even prescription drugs - Brett Favre's addiction to Vicodin; Dec. issue Reader's

Digest article about OxyContin; Recent T.V. news magazine report.

- \* Some may be psychological, others physiological, but either way: BEWARE!

**2. Is cocaine Legal?** No. It and crack are called controlled substances.

- \* Bible: Remember I Cor. 6:12? All things must be lawful; I Pet. 2:13-14; Rom. 13:1
- \* Other controlled substances: marijuana, hashish, heroin, L.S.D, etc.
- \* Prescription drugs without a prescription - This weekend, Wynonna Ryder (actress) arrested for shoplifting, but police found prescription drugs with no prescription.
- \* Purchasing alcohol and tobacco products under 21 is illegal.

**3. Is cocaine healthy?** No. At least not in a recreational use sense.

- \* Bible: I Cor. 6:15-20; Eph. 5:29; I Thess. 5:23
- \* Drug abuse is inflicting damage on your brain, body, internal organs, genes, etc.
- \* Recent news locally - huffing (inhaling) nitrous oxide gas - car accident followed. Also things like sniffing glue and other solvents is potentially lethal.
- \* Even once might kill you if unknown heart problem existed.
- \* Alcohol, nicotine, etc. Surgeons General's warnings. Not MAY be, but it IS harmful to your health.
- \* God does not want us to deliberately damage our body or mind. Our body needs to be preserved in order to further serve Christ and the mind to know and understand His will.

**4. Is Snorting cocaine helpful to my positive influence for Christ?** Not likely!

- \* Marriages are ruined, reputations lost, careers blown, and yes, influence to a great degree minimized, all by drug use.
- \* Bible: Rom. 14:21; I Cor. 8:13

**5. Is cocaine a part of wholesome "partying"?** Not usually.

- \* Crack parties, beer bashes, happy hours, etc. tend to revelry.
- \* Bible: Rom. 13:13; I Pet. 4:3
- \* Revelry and drinking parties are prohibited by God
- \* I know a man whose house was commonly full of regular guests when marijuana was available, but stopped practically overnight, so that almost nobody came around anymore, when the man decided to quit using it. Partying and drugs or alcohol often go hand in hand.

**Conclusion:** I do not believe God wants you or me to use cocaine recreationally for many reasons.



Just Say "NO" To Drugs!