



## WORDS FROM *Pastor Randy*

I love the Peanuts cartoons. I believe that all “truly” spiritual people do. In one Charlie Brown episode, Lucy says to Snoopy, “There are times when you bug me, but there are times, I must admit, when I feel like giving you a big hug.” Snoopy smiles and replies, “That’s the way I am . . . **huggable & buggable.**”

Ever know any of God’s “*huggable*” and “*buggable*” people? You love them, and they are God’s kids, but they sure know how to get on your last nerve! They remind me of those two porcupines one winter who were huddled close together as to stay warm. The problem was that the closer they got to each other, the more they stuck each other with their sharp quills. Before long, they were backing away and shivering cold again. The further apart they were from each other, the colder they became. They couldn’t get close to each other for sticking each other. The irony was that in spite of how much need needed each other, they couldn’t enjoy each other because they kept needling each other.

Quite often we need to ask the Lord to help us know how to get along with those that we love. Sometimes these are the people closest to us in life, perhaps our own family or our own church members. It’s easy to get comfortable “needling” those who are near us and failing to see that we’re really pushing them further and further away from us.

### SUGGESTION FOR DEALING WITH THE “BUGGABLES “ IN LIFE

- Forgive those who’ve “needled” you
- Ask forgiveness of those you’ve “needled”
- Guard against developing a bitter critical spirit
- Never give up on the imperfect people in your life
- Never forget that “who” we are is more important than “what” our differences are
- It’s never worth it to win the argument & lose a relationship
- Refuse to be driven into isolation by a few hard-to-deal-with folks
- Remember that you need people even though they often let us down

Remember it’s never your job to straighten everybody & everything out

I heard about one Baptist preacher who resigned his church after 20 years, and became a funeral director. When they asked him why he did it, he answered, “Well, I spent 4 years trying to straighten out ole Farmer John and 6 months trying to straighten out the Smith’s failing marriage, and 12 years trying to straighten out lazy deacons. I never did. Now in my new job, when I straighten them, they stay straight.

There are just some things and some people we’ll never get straightened out. Only God can do that!

See you in church!

Pastor Randy

# Trivia That Isn't Trivial

1. What is the name of the man who had 2 daughters married to the same man?
2. Abraham left what country?
3. What Bible character accidentally hanged himself in a tree?

## ANSWERS

1. Laban (Genesis 29:16-28)
  2. Ur of the Chaldees (Genesis 11:31)
  3. Absalom (2 Samuel 18:9, 10)
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