



# Building Conviction Within

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## A. Conviction is a Strong Belief that Impacts Behaviour!

- Conviction is the state of being influenced to act governed by virtue and principle.
- Conviction is the merger of pure moral persuasion with sheer persistent determination.
- Conviction helps one overcome resistance and barriers, both external and internal.
- A person with conviction makes decisions based on what they VALUE not what they feel.

## B. Conviction – Related Words Defined

1. Convicted – When I feel guilty and remorseful for my wrong behaviour.
2. Convicted – As in a court of law, the sentence pronounced – found guilty as charged.
3. Conviction – The inner strength that drives one to do what is right.
4. Conviction – Feeling guilty over my bad behaviour.
5. Conviction – The judgement has been made as I am found guilty of wrongdoing.
6. Convictions – My strong set of beliefs held uncompromisingly that drive me to do right.
7. Convict (noun) – A person found guilty facing jail time to pay the price for their crime.
8. Convict (verb) – To show evidence for misbehaviour where the suspect is found guilty.

## C. Conviction – God’s Perspective

- Psalm 119:9-11- “How can a young person stay on the **path of purity? By living according to your word.** I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. ***I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.***
- James 5:19, 20 - My brothers and sisters, if one of you should **wander from the truth** and someone should bring that person back, <sup>20</sup> remember this: ***Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way*** will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.
- John 16:8-11 “And when (The Holy Spirit) comes, ***he will convict the world of its sin, and of God’s righteousness, and of the coming judgment.*** <sup>9</sup> The world’s sin is that it refuses to believe in me. <sup>10</sup> Righteousness is available because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more. <sup>11</sup> Judgment will come because the ruler of this world has already been judged.
- Jude 1:14-15 - Enoch, who lived in the seventh generation after Adam, prophesied about these people. He said, “Listen! The Lord is coming with countless thousands of his holy ones <sup>15</sup> to execute judgment on the people of the world. ***He will convict every person of all the ungodly things they have done and for all the insults that ungodly sinners have spoken against him.***”
- John 15:1-5 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup> ***You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.*** <sup>4</sup> Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. <sup>5</sup> “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

## D. The Path to Building Conviction Grows...

1. **Through reading, studying and understanding God's Word.** There is NO SHORTCUT to going deep with God. It is being in the Scriptures a ton. Remember: A Bible that is falling apart belongs to someone who isn't.
2. **Through ongoing daily surrender to the leading of the Holy Spirit.** It's prayed like this, *"Lord, I give you my life today, fill me with your Holy Spirit. May I hear HIS voice over the world's draw and my own desires."* He lovingly convicts you of your sin.
3. **Through learning from the consequences of the poor choices made.** The repercussions of my selfish actions are killing me. I am so tired of hurting others. I will keep learning from my mistakes so I will stop my addictive patterns and stop making mistakes – deliberate ones that it. I will stay in my lane stopping at nothing less than making the changes.
4. **Through the impact of other's lives.** We learn from others – their example of deep commitment to God's ways. YOU are the average of the 5 men that you hang around with the most. Watch, ask, assess and follow the good men farther down the road than you.
5. **Through genuine accountability to caring others.** Through honest disclosure and asking for input, you invite others to call you to greatness. A Band of Brothers WARNING – what are you doing? What are you thinking? These men, like new cars that buzz or vibrate if you wandering out of your lane – they say something and you should listen.
6. **Through feeling guilt over the wrongness of my behaviour.** It is a growing sensitivity to any wrong thoughts and actions. As I come to know that what I am doing is immoral and sinful, I choose to live differently. Conviction grows out of guilt through a clarified awareness of right vs. wrong.

## E. Conviction Summary Thoughts

- Living with conviction means you are maturing in Life.
- When what you say you'll do is what you end up doing. This is a huge sign of growing up.
- Genuine conviction moves you to genuine change
- Impulsive intentions are NOT genuine conviction. Intention changes little.
- Boys talk their intentions – Men live their convictions!

**Boys make excuses – Men make changes!**