

## Road Signs For Relationships Part VI; May 28, 2017

### “Dead End: When To Get Out!”

“Become wise by walking with the wise; **hang out with fools and watch your life fall to pieces.**”

– Proverbs 13:20 (MSG)

“If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, **leave that home or town and shake the dust off your feet.**”

– Matthew 10:14 (NIV)

#### Five Symptoms I’m In A Dead-End Relationship:

When I’m doing all the **giving.**

When they don’t respect my **boundaries.**

When I don’t like who I’m **becoming** around them.

When I recognize we have **different goals.**

When they become **threatening or abusive.**

#### How To Deal With A Possible Dead End:

**Confront potentially toxic behavior early.**

“So stop telling lies. Let us tell our neighbors the truth, for we are all parts of the same body. And “don’t sin by letting anger control you.” **Don’t let the sun go down while you are still angry, for anger gives a foothold to the devil.**

– Ephesians 4:25-27 (NLT)

**Some relational dead ends are simply rough roads that we allowed to go on too long!**

## Be open to how the problem might be with **YOU!**

“And why worry about a speck in your friend’s eye when you have a log in your own? How can you think of saying to your friend, ‘Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,’ when you can’t see past the log in your own eye? Hypocrite! **First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend’s eye.**”

– Matthew 7:3-5 (NLT)

**Before you end the relationship,  
see if you can simply back it up a bit.**

**Ending a relationship you’ve had for while should be  
a LAST RESORT, not a FIRST RESPONSE!**

**When you must end it,  
do so with sorrow and grace.**

“Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you... **Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children.**”

– Ephesians 4:31-5:1 (NLT)

**How you LEAVE a relationship is a truer test of your  
godliness than how you LIVED in that relationship.**