

Byron's Babbles

PUT UP OR SHUT UP

In the NFL, it's called "taunting" ...the practice of getting in the face of an opponent whenever a weakness is spotted, often inciting a fight. In the NHL it's known as, "talking trash"...or the practice of letting the opponent know how good you think you are, and how bad you think they are. In the NBA it's "Put up or shut up"...show me how good you are by your actions, not by your words. The Bible has such a philosophy as well, it's called, "Practice what you Preach" and we are all preachers at times. There is a sign posted outside of a convent that reads:

"Absolutely NO TRESPASSING!

**Violators will be prosecuted to the
fullest extent of the law.**

Signed, The Sisters of Mercy."

There are so many areas of teaching that we could draw attention to in our own lives, but today we speak of forgiveness. Christians are called to be forgiving people, **period**. Forget about who started it, what started it, and why it happened...just forgive. This body as a whole has done a very good job about forgiving one another, but sometimes there lingers a grudge or resentment for past wrongs suffered, to those within and without the household of faith. This year let's put all of our energy into being more like Christ, and the benefits will be innumerable. As we go through the rest of this week let's ponder the words of Paul in Ephesians 4:31-32:

"Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." [NIV]

In His Service
Byron