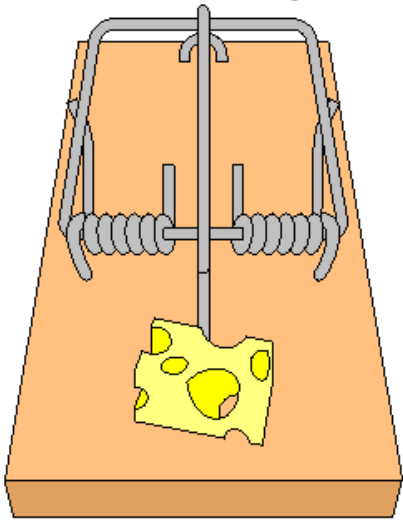


# How to Say No ...



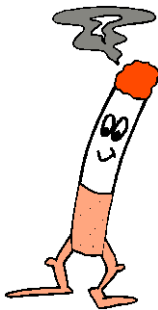
## to Sin

Have you ever been in a new school where you didn't know anyone?

You really wanted to fit in and make new friends. Or you may already have friends and you want to keep them.

The **problem** is that sometimes friends ask us to do wrong things. We know they're wrong, but we want so badly to belong.

It's hard to stand alone sometimes, to do what's right when others want you to do something that God says is wrong.



Maybe you've been asked to:

Cheat on a test.

Shoplift something from the store.

Lie to your parents about where you were.

Try a cigarette, a glass of alcohol, or a strange pill.

Get involved in sexual behaviour.

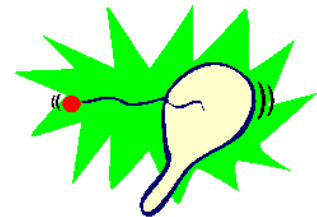
# No !

You know these kinds of things are wrong and that they are sinful in God's eyes.

So what do you do?

You could try doing one of these...

- ❖ Suggest a different activity – a game, a bike ride, an ice cream cone, a trip to the park. Something enjoyable that gets your friends thinking of good wholesome things.



- ❖ Reply with something like:  
"No Thanks". "I'd rather not."  
"That's boring."  
Or maybe: "That's not a cool thing to do."

- ❖ Say to your friends, "I like you too much to see you get into trouble."

- ❖ Simply walk away !!



- ❖ Challenge your friends to come up with an idea that's really fun.
- ❖ Tell them that you think they're special, but what they're asking you to do is simply wrong, and you won't do it.

❖ Make a joke to lighten the mood, then change the subject.

❖ Tell them your parents would be upset & disappointed.

- ❖ Look for new friends if these won't listen to reason.  
It's better to be alone for a while  
so that God can bring you the friends  
He wants you to have.

- ❖ Look straight ahead and think about God – otherwise you might be tempted by something you see, and you might want to do the wrong thing.



Before you answer ...  
Pray a quick  
sentence prayer  
to God.

*Whether you turn to the right or to the left,  
your ears will hear a voice behind you,  
saying, "This is the way; walk in it."  
– Isaiah 30:21*

He gives strength and wisdom during these times  
and will help you to do and say  
what's right.

And when you find yourself feeling lonely and anxious to belong, remember that you're never alone  
if Jesus Christ is your Friend. He is the closest, best, and most interesting Friend.  
He leads us to do what's right and good. And He knows the friends we should have.  
Don't settle for less.