

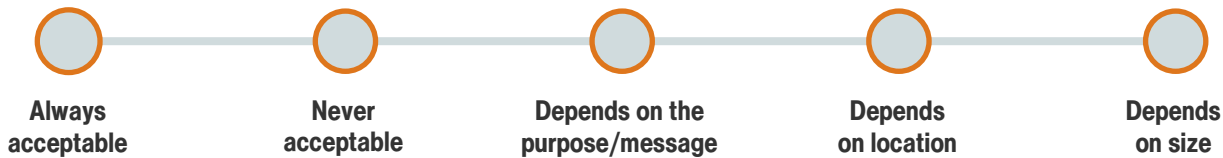
Think Before You Ink

Have you ever been tempted to get a tattoo? Before you do anything, consider the following:

WHAT DO YOU THINK?



What is your view of tattoos?



REASON ON THE SCRIPTURES

I want a tattoo because _____



It's popular;
everyone is doing it!



Scripture: "You must not make cuts in your flesh for a dead person, and you must not make tattoo markings on yourselves."
—Leviticus 19:28.

TRUE OR FALSE: That law, given to the Israelites, is binding on Christians.

Answer:
FALSE.

Christians are no longer under the Mosaic Law. (Hebrews 7:18-22)
Nevertheless, Leviticus 19:28 provides insight into God's thinking.
People in nations around Israel marked their skin with the names or
symbols of their gods.

Why, do you think, did God not want the Israelites to tattoo their skin?

In what circumstances, then, would a tattoo definitely be out of the question for a Christian?



It's just a positive message,
and it helps me remember
someone I love.

Scripture: "All Scripture is inspired of God and beneficial for teaching, for reproving, for setting things straight, for disciplining in righteousness, so that the man of God may be fully competent, completely equipped for every good work."—**2 Timothy 3:16, 17.**

Scripture: "The one who peers into the perfect law that belongs to freedom and continues in it has become, not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work; and he will be happy in what he does."—**James 1:25.**



Do you think that a positive message—for example, a Scriptural saying or thought—would be an appropriate tattoo?

☐ Yes, because _____

☐ No, because _____

Really, what is the best way to be reminded of Scriptural commands and principles?

What are some better ways to remember those we love?

"If you gave someone a nice gift and that person took a permanent marker and wrote all over it, how would you feel? That's what our getting a tattoo must seem like to the Creator."
—Anna.



I think that it looks good.
It's just art, and it's my body.

Scripture: "Do not let your adornment be external—the braiding of hair and the wearing of gold ornaments or fine clothing—but let it be the secret person of the heart in the incorruptible adornment of the quiet and mild spirit, which is of great value in the eyes of God."
—1 Peter 3:3, 4.

Scripture: "What is Jehovah requiring of you? Only to exercise justice, to cherish loyalty, and to walk in modesty with your God!"
—Micah 6:8.



Why, do you think, does the Bible place such value on modesty?

How could your appearance affect others?

THE PUBLIC

Read 2 Corinthians 6:3.

Why does it matter what others think of you?

YOUR FRIENDS

Read 1 Corinthians 10:31-33.

If you were to get a tattoo, what effect might this have on others?

YOUR GOD

Read Romans 12:1.

Why does the way you treat your body matter to God?
