

## Sibling Challenges: Just Be Love

*My mom raised me and my younger sister in the Science of Mind philosophy. Since we had no dad, my sister always looked to me for protection and guidance. It was rough sometimes, but I thought we had a good relationship. She's been dating this fundamental Christian guy for a while. Now she dresses differently and acts distant and weird. I asked if his church was a cult. She screamed that Science of Mind is a cult and hasn't spoken to me since. My mom wants me to embrace her boyfriend and play nice, but I have to speak my truth. I'm worried about her but hate that she's turned on me and the way we were raised. I feel like she's being gullible. What should I do?*

You should do what love does. Redirect your attention to what matters more than hurt, fear or judgment: your love for your sister. Start by speaking your truth to yourself in prayer. Admit the spectrum of your feelings, then claim your willingness to be open, loving and real with her *and* her boyfriend. You may doubt you can do this, but I promise, God within you can.

Your sister has the right to explore and find her own way, even in directions you may not like. If you are concerned for her well-being, research her boyfriend's church. Better yet, go there with an open mind and experience it for yourself.

What do you value about the teachings of Science of Mind? Spiritual freedom, inclusivity and oneness? In the Declaration of Principles, known as "What We Believe," Ernest Holmes states, "We believe in ... our own spirit and our own destiny; for we understand that the life of all is God."

If you've been her mentor growing up, don't stop now. Embody these principles and be an example for your sister, no matter what path she chooses.

This is an important juncture on your sibling journey. Take your next steps consciously, knowing that, "The ultimate goal of life is a complete freedom from discord, ... and this goal is sure to be attained by all." Just be love. Blessings of peace to you and your family. ☸



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