

Disciplined Disciples

Northwest Church of Christ: Young Adults

Winter Quarter: 2014-2015

Topic: Pursuing Sexual Purity



Peter described Satan as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8). I would submit to you that Satan devours more souls with Sexual sins than almost any other kind of sin. This is not to say that Sexual sin is the unforgivable sin, rather that it is an easy trap for Satan to set. He takes something designed by God for good, and twists it into something perverse. Too often we can convince ourselves that this is a problem of the world, not a problem in the church. Just how pervasive is this problem?

1. The elephant in the room.

- Porn sites get more views per month than Netflix, Amazon, and Twitter combined!
 - 61% of men and 41% of women view pornography multiple times a month (according to "The Christian post self-identified Christian men and women view pornography at the same rate")
 - The "porn industry" makes more money annually than the NFL, NBA, MLB combined.
 - "Magic Mike"- made more than 113 million dollars.
 - By February 2012 "Fifty shades of Grey" sold more than 100 million copies.
 - Focus on the Family reported that the average age that children are exposed to Pornography is age, 8.
 - According to Dr. Jill Manning 500,000 divorces a year cite pornography as a major contributing factor to the end of their marriage.
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Important Scriptures

- **Matthew 5:28-** But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.
 - **1 Corinthians 6:18-20-** Flee from sexual immorality..."
 - **Psalms 119:37-** Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.
 - **Job 31:1-** "I have made a covenant with my eyes; how then could I gaze at a virgin?"
 - **Proverbs 6:32-33-** He who commits adultery lacks sense; he who does it destroys himself. He will get wounds and dishonor, and his disgrace will not be wiped away.
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2. What do the scriptures say?

- Psalm 119:9-11 gives us the key to keeping ourselves pure.
- Matthew 5:28- Jesus calls the thoughts sinful, not just the actions.
- 1 Corinthians 6:18-20- "flee"
- Psalm 119:37, Job 31:1- Both talk about making a commitment before the fact. How much better off would we be if we determined how we will handle temptation before it arises?
- 1 Thessalonians 5:22- Abstain from every form of evil.

3. How can I safeguard my heart?

- Spend more time in study and prayer (Psalm 119:10-11)
- Do not be over confident-
- Set common rules: Never be alone with someone of the opposite sex that is not your spouse, don't allow your hands to be idle, make sure your spouse has access to your phone, email, social media...
- Install browsing safeguards on your computer, and your smartphones.
- Get an accountability partner
- Stop reading romance novels that do not portray reality.



Discussing the Word

1. When is the last time that you opened up to a brother/ sister in Christ about a personal struggle?
2. What are some other ways this temptation arises?
3. What is another way you can safeguard your heart?
4. Does the church spend enough time talking about sins of this nature? Why, or why not?

