



NO. 2

TM truth matters
ministries

**A GUIDE FOR JOURNEYING
TOGETHER WITH STUDENTS**

PURITY IS POSSIBLE

Looking at Lust.

I need to warn you, this is not a “fun” week...but it is an important week. This week, we are going to take a look at what lust is, its consequences, and what Christ can do about it.

MATTHEW 5:27-28

“You have heard the commandment that says, ‘You must not commit adultery.’ But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Put an “A” on the word adultery every time it is used. Put an “L” on the word lust every time it is used. What does this passage tell us about lust?

1 THESSALONIANS 4:3-8

God’s will is for you to be holy, so stay away from all sexual sin. Then each of you will control his own body and live in holiness and honor—not in lustful passion like the pagans who do not know God and his ways. Never harm or cheat a Christian brother in this matter by violating his wife, for the Lord avenges all such sins, as we have solemnly warned you before. God has called us to live holy lives, not impure lives. Therefore, anyone who refuses to live by these rules is not disobeying human teaching but is rejecting God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

In this passage, put an “S” over every reference to sexual sin. Put an “L” over every reference to lust in particular. According to this passage, what two things are opposite of lust?

“Holiness” focuses on our awareness of God. In this passage it means that we take our sexual desires, and function with a high regard for the holiness of God. What might it look like to have a high regard for the holiness of God when it comes to our sexual desires?

“Honor” focuses on our awareness of others. It means we have a passion to honor others, to protect and provide for their physical, relational, emotional and sexual well being. What might it look like to have a passion for the honor of others?

Let’s right out a definition of lust according to this passage...

Lust = Sexual desires – _____ and _____.

Take a look at this passage again...when it comes to our lusts, who are the victims?

When it comes to pornography, who are the people in your life pornography victimizes? (think in terms of people you know (family etc.), and people you don't know...or may not know yet). Let's list them...(this may be a bit of a tough assignment...it's OK, God's grace is big!).

In what ways does pornography victimize women and husbands in particular and how does it offend God?

Is there anyone else in your life, that your struggle with pornography has affected?

One of the greatest messages of Jesus Christ is His desire to forgive us. Perhaps the verse we see this most clearly is 1 John 1:8-9:

1 JOHN 1:8-9

If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

What does this passage say about sin?

What does it mean to confess our sin?

What is the result of confessing our sin?

What is the difference between “forgiving our sin” and “cleaning us from our sin”?

According to this passage, how often can we confess our sin and experience forgiveness and purity?

Take home assignment.

(Spend some time confessing sin to Christ.)

1. Ask God, by the power of His Holy Spirit, to help you through this process.
2. Write down specifically what this sin is you have committed, who the victims are, and what the affects of the sin are on the victims (this includes the people in pornography and the people in your life)
3. Write down how the sin of pornography is a sin against God.
4. Spend some time thinking about the reality that Christ died on the cross for these sins in particular
5. Now confess these sins to Christ and ask God to forgive you.
6. Spend some time thinking about the awesome reality that when Jesus Christ went to the cross, He specifically took these sins you have confessed on Himself, and paid the debt to God that you owe for these sins, and because of His death for you, you are now completely forgiven and purified. You no longer have anything to hide before God.
7. Now draw a line through each sin you wrote down, and beside it, write “forgiven”.
8. Spend some time thanking God for His forgiveness, and finally spend some time asking Him to empower you to pursue a “pure” or “holy” life.

Renew Your Mind.

(memorize)

FIGHT THE LIE:

I can pursue purity on my own strength.

Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

// John 15:5 //

FIGHT THE LIE:

The temptation is too big for me. There's no use in fighting.

Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.

// Ephesians 3:20 //