Sex In The Body Of Christ

<u>Part 3:</u> Don't Look, Don't Touch



Last Two Weeks:

Statistics about the pervasiveness of sex in our present-day society

A look at the pervasiveness of sex within the church.

The Failings of Church Purity Programs

Lies and Rationalizations That Perpetuate the Problem

Approaching the Problem With a True Spirit of Confession Why is Christ having so little impact on the sexual behavior of those in the body of Christ?

<u>God's Word –</u> <u>Exposing the Darkness:</u> Ephesians 5:8-10;13

"For you were once in darkness, but now you are the light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. ... But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible."

Lies & Rationalizations:

"I'm just a physical person."

"Everyone struggles in one area or another. This just happens to be the area in which I struggle."

> "Guys just want to have sex so they can brag to their friends that they 'hit it."

"For guys, sex is just a physical act that is unconnected with their feelings."

"Unless there is penetration, it is not sex." "I am still a virgin if we have never actually 'done it.""

Lies & Rationalizations:

"Oral sex does not count as sex."

"Experimenting with friends is not sex."

"Lust is a sin, and all sins are equal. At least if I act on my impulses, and take care of my lustful thoughts, I will be sinning less, not more."

"Jesus forgives all sins. I am so good in other areas, I am sure that He will easily forgive these sins."

> "God created us to be sexual beings. I am just acting the way God made me."

Lies & Rationalizations:

"Fornication really refers to immoral sex, or illicit sex, or sex without love. We are in love, so sex is allowable (or at least less offensive)."

> "God knows that we are going to get married, so I sure He understands."

TODAY'S RATIONALIZATION:

IT'S OKAY TO LOOK AS LONG AS YOU DON'T TOUCH.

Clever Ways to Look Without Touching

- Magazines
- Fantasizing
 - **The Internet**
 - **Chat Rooms / Instant Messaging**
- Movies
 - Strip Clubs

The Truth 1 Peter 1:13-16

"Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

The Truth Ephesians 5:3-4

"But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or course joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving."

The Truth 2 Corinthians 5:17-18a

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation."

So Why Are Christians Having Sex Outside of Marriage?

Because our loved ones are close by, and God seems far away.

Although we know that it is wrong, we never discuss *why* it is wrong.

Because we refuse to yield control of this part of our lives over to Jesus.

Because we are immature in our relationship with Christ / we have not truly been renewed.

Because we simply want to.

What is Wrong with Christians Having Sex Outside of Marriage?

- 1. It harms us physically.
- 2. It harms us emotionally.
- 3. It harms us mentally.
- 4. It harms us spiritually.

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