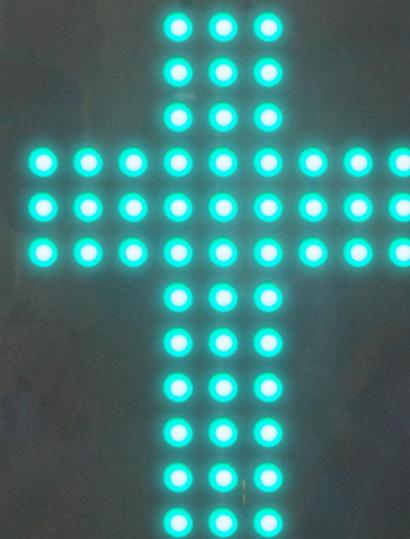


1st Corinthians and 21st Century Living

SEXUAL PURITY



1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-10

⁹ Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men ¹⁰ nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

I CORINTHIANS 6:11

¹¹ And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

**God has an eternal
plan for our bodies.**



I CORINTHIANS 6:13

¹³ You say, “Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both.” The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

I CORINTHIANS 6:14

¹⁴ By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also.



**Our bodies are
for the Lord.**



I CORINTHIANS 6:15-17

¹⁵ Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never!

I CORINTHIANS 6:15-17

¹⁶ Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, “The two will become one flesh.” ¹⁷ But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

So how do we respond?



A yellow traffic light is shown in the background, with a glowing cyan cross on its display. The background is a dark, blurred image of a street scene.

So how do we respond?

- Flee immorality

1 CORINTHIANS 6:18

¹⁸ Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.

- Don't mistake temptation for permission



- Don't mistake temptation for permission
- Stay away from pornography



- Don't mistake temptation for permission
- Stay away from pornography
- Set boundaries



- Don't mistake temptation for permission
- Stay away from pornography
- Set boundaries
- Monitor your spiritual and emotional health





So how do we respond?

- **Dedicate your body to God's glory**

I CORINTHIANS 6:19,20

¹⁹ Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

ROMANS 12:1

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

—RACHEL GILSON, CRU THEOLOGICAL
DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE TEAM

“...we must consider that each desire presses us not only toward its obvious end but also reveals that God alone is the true end of every longing. So yes, our desires are often thwarted, but that fact doesn't doom us.



—RACHEL GILSON

Instead, even our unfulfilled yearnings can lead us toward the beauty and fulfillment found in God himself. He is the one who made us desiring creatures, because he, too, experiences desire. We are like him, and all our desires are ultimately pictures of what God-in-Christ longs to fulfill for us.



—RACHEL GILSON

In the end, sex is a gift, but it's not the point. As Christians, we can mourn its loss or celebrate its presence. But when it moves to the center of our vision, either through indulgence or repression, we end up pursuing "Christian" goals through unChristian tactics.



—RACHEL GILSON

Jesus must be our vision, our great yes that balms the smaller no's. Until he is enough, no other yes or no will be sufficient."



