

Lust and Pornography

Desire (*epithumia*): conscious impulse toward something that promises enjoyment or satisfaction in its attainment.

Lust (*epithumia*): a craving or appetite for something that is not mine to have or is not good for me.

God's gift for unity (Matthew 19:4-6).

- Intimacy: to know and be known
- Comfort: give and receive

Lust is desire turned self-indulgent (1 John 2:16).

Deception: Sex is an individual choice and right, the property of self.

- Physical Realm
 - Pleasure and release
- Emotional Realm
 - Intimacy counteracts rejection
 - Comfort counteracts abandonment
 - Control counteracts betrayal
- Spiritual Realm
 - Soul Ties (1 Corinthians 6:15-20)
 - Spirit of *porneo*

Pornography: Tools for deception, attacking the mind, leading to make believe.

- Curiosity: Did God actually say ...? (Proverbs 6:25)
- Desire for knowledge (of good and evil) leads to false responsibility, judgment
- Selfishness (1 Corinthians 7:9)

Addiction Cycle: Thought, desire, need, action, relief (incomplete), guilt, remorse, shame. Yet the need remains, and increases.

Prayer Strategy: Complete mind renewal.

1. Ask God to reveal the source or origin of lust
 - a. Introduction (who to forgive)
2. Ask God to reveal the root of the stronghold
 - a. Initial need (rejection, abandonment, betrayal, etc)
 - b. Primary (ongoing) need
3. Receive forgiveness for misusing God's good gift
 - a. Confess: "I am guilty of using sex to overcome _____"
 - b. Repent: "I choose to accept Your solution to my _____"
4. Ask for truth
 - a. Receive: "Show me the right way to respond to _____"
5. Cast out a spirit of *porneo*, and other spirits that access through this legal ground
6. Ask God to restore purity
 - a. Practice overcoming temptation (James 1:13-15)
 - b. Establish healthy limits (Job 31:1)
7. Hold the territory
 - a. Practice good disciplines
 - b. Gratitude and Love one another

Matthew 19:4-6

He answered, “Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, “Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh”? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”

1 John 2:16

For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.

1 Corinthians 6:15-20

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Proverbs 6:25

Do not desire her beauty in your heart, and do not let her capture you with her eyelashes;

1 Corinthians 7:9

But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

James 1:13-15A

Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Job 31:1

“I have made a covenant with my eyes; how then could I gaze at a virgin?