

Victory over Sin

Lesson 5: Sins of Impurity

Identifying Impurity

In this lesson, you first define the sins of impurity below. Read the list and write the definitions of words you don't know. Then, circle or write down the sins that you see in your life right now and in your past. Look up the scriptures beside the sins that you think will be the hardest for you to change and the hardest for you to talk about. In your journal, write about how you see these sins in your life.

Impurity (Galatians 5:19-21, Ephesians 4:17-24)

lust (Matthew 5:27-30)	pornography (Ephesians 5:3)
sensuality, (i.e. kissing or dancing in a sexual way) outside of marriage (Ephesians 5:3)	using impure language (Colossians 3:8)
touching a person in a sexual way outside of marriage (Matthew 5:30)	dressing to make another person have sexual thoughts outside of marriage* (Mark 9:42)
sexual thoughts or uncontrolled feelings outside of marriage (Exodus 20:17)	dating or entering into marriage with an unbeliever (II Corinthians 6:14-18)
	masturbation (Matthew 5:30)

*We should consider others when we dress. Men and women can think impure thoughts when they see a person wearing very short, tight, or revealing clothing, wearing immodest bathing suits or tops, or exposing too much flesh, etc. Sensitivity can vary by person and by culture. While we don't want to promote a legalistic view of clothing, we should be thoughtful of others and not cause one another to struggle.

Sexual Immorality (I Corinthians 5:11-13)

sex outside of marriage (Revelation 22:15)	sex with animals
adultery (Matthew 5:32, Matthew 19:19, Mark 10:11-12)	sex with a family member (I Corinthians 5:1-2)
raping another person (Deuteronomy 22:25)	sex with more than one person
prostitution (I Corinthians 6:16)	homosexuality (Romans 1:26-27, I Timothy 1:10, I Corinthians 6:9-20)
child abuse	sex with animals ¹

Going Deeper

In your journal, answer the Go Deeper questions below. Sometimes working through bad memories or tough times in our past helps us to see ways we have sinned and understand more about why we sin. Talk through these situations with a Christian friend, and talk about what love would look like instead. Pray together over these sins. Ask Jesus for his help and forgiveness.

Go to the next page.

Sins of Impurity

1. Think of a time when you did not feel loved or accepted by an adult, especially a mother or father? Explain why. How did you feel?
2. Sometimes we seek love that we are missing in our lives through impurity or sexual immorality. Have you ever experienced that? Explain.
3. In what ways do you feel insecure about yourself? What have you done to make yourself feel more secure? Have you ever tried to find security through impurity or sexual immorality?
4. Have you ever been insecure in a relationship and tried to keep it through impurity or sexual immorality?
5. Have you ever used impurity or sexual immorality to feel important or valued by others?
6. When have you felt high levels of stress in your life? Were you impure or sexually immoral during that time?
7. Are there any other Sins of Impurity that you see in your life right now or in your past?
8. How has your impurity or sexual immorality hurt people in your life?
9. Have you ever been a victim of someone else's impurity or sexual immorality (i.e. sexual abuse, rape, etc.)? How did that make you feel? How has that experience affected your own views about sexual relationships or your behavior?
10. In the areas you discussed, what would loving God, others, or yourself look like?
11. Create a purity, emotional management, and/or stress plan to help you in this area. Set up healthy internet, phone, and relationship boundaries to protect yourself.

Making Decisions

Study II Corinthians 7:10-11 and I Corinthians 13:4-8. What does Jesus want you to do about the sins in your life? What do you want to do? Talk about any decisions that you've made from this study.

This Week:

1. Take some time to read a few verses from two handouts: The Promises of God and My Identity in Christ. These handouts are found at <https://www.connectthenations.com/transform>.
2. Share what you wrote with your friend and ask them to share what they wrote with you as well. End the time with praying one for another.
3. Prepare for Lesson 6.