##  Sexual Purity

 **Why is sexual purity so vital to Christian living?**

Our society is obsessed with sex. Everywhere one turns, there seems to be a theme of “selling sex” on billboards, advertising and television. Is being sexual pure and abstinent a thing in the past or can a single person abstain and fit in with society and peers?

The Bible teaches us to be free from sexual immorality, which is sex outside of a marriage, adultery, homosexuality and other sexual acts. In fact, the Bible says those who conduct these things cannot inherit the kingdom of God, 1 Corinthians 6:9. It takes more than just human “willpower” to overcome the temptations that God meant to be between a man and woman in marriage. It takes the supernatural work of God living in our lives.

God has always intended for sex to be something special between a man and woman after marriage. Sexual relationships outside marriage is not only forbidden, it also destroys personal relationships and prevents a secure society. Statistics reflect divorce rates are much higher for those who have sex outside the marriage than for those who wait. The other consideration is in the trust and health factor. If one has a partner who is free with sex, how many other partners have they encountered, how safe is one from a sexually transmitted disease, and will they stay loyal to me?

God created a natural attraction for the opposite sex but He intended it to be shared in the confines within the marriage vow. Today's society often promotes having sex outside of the marriage. Over 70% of today's young adults believe it is acceptable to have sex outside of marriage because they believe it is a physical act and does not have anything to do with commitment, loyalty, love or breaking wedding vows to be true to the one they married. We live in a society that is driven by lust.

The Bible says, “For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. Sexual purity is not a popular subject because it goes contrary to “how we feel” instead of “what is right for me, my future, and to God”. God's standard of morality has not changed, and He blesses those who keep His commandments and follows his word. Sexual purity before and throughout marriage is God's plan for every believer. Seek the Lord for direction, strength, and the power to choose the right way for your life.

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