

# **Lesson 18: Sexual Purity**

**Rejoicing in God's Good Design**













# Sexual Desires Are God-Given and Good

Genesis 2:24-25

Sexuality and sexual desire = **GOOD**

But wrongly used = **DESTRUCTIVE**

God delights in healthy, legitimate sexual expressions of love and set a boundary to guard and protect our sexuality.



# Sexual Desires Are God-Given and Good

God's safeguard for our sexuality:

## MARRIAGE

Sexual relations outside of marriage:

- Breaking God's rules
- Being vulnerable to abuse and hurt



# Sexual Relations Outside Marriage Forbidden

Sexual contact with another is immoral, unless it is between a man and a woman who are married to each other.



# God's Word

Hebrews 13:4

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

1 Corinthians 6:16-18



The warnings against sex outside of marriage and sexual immorality are very serious.

When two people are sexually united to each other they are giving themselves to each other in a powerful union.









# Sexual Purity

Sexual purity is not only



ACTIONS

but also



THOUGHTS

and



DESIRES

We must fight for purity in our thoughts and our desires.



# God's Word

Matthew 23:25-28

One form of sexual sin “on the inside of the cup” is sexual lust.

Lust is a sin—a form of covetousness and idolatry.



Matthew 5:27-30

Jesus uses strong images to say that lust should be cut off and not tolerated.

Lust, like all sins, can lead you to hell.



# Lust



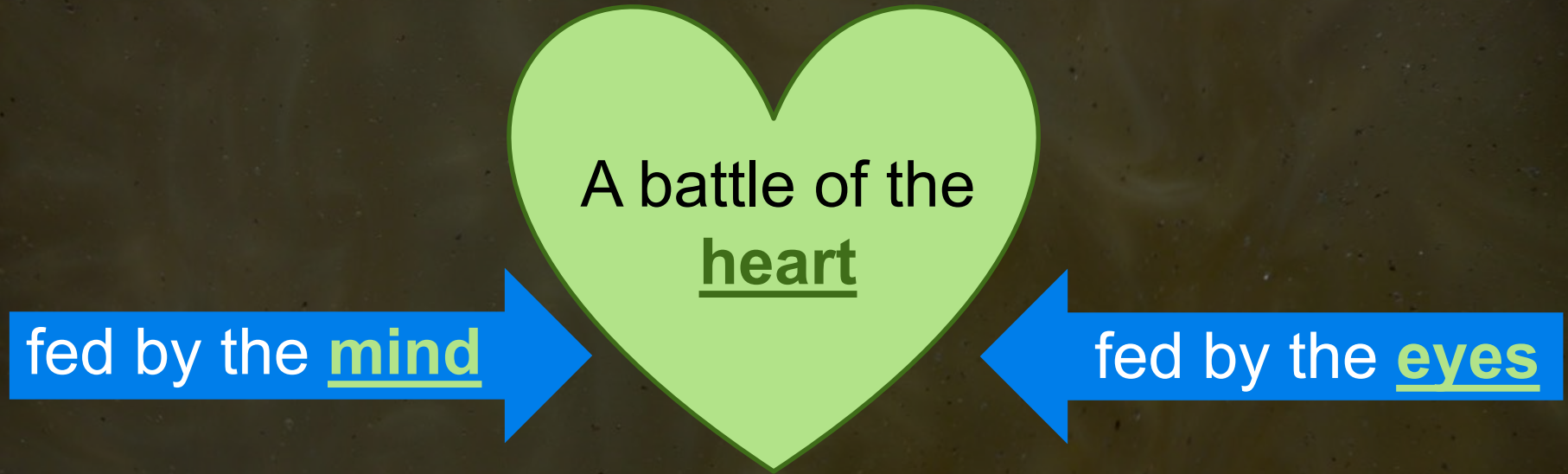
When lust is fed, it grows.

When starved, it withers.

Pornography feeds lust. It is dangerous, addictive, and needs to be cut off.



# The Battle Against Lust



**Guard your eyes!**

Job 31:1-4

Proverbs 4:25-26



*“The God who invites us into what is good also warns us off what is bad. You may be sure of this: everyone who is sexually immoral has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Take it to heart. Don’t let peer pressure or the culture deceive you. By the mercy of Christ, you will live a brighter, more loving, and more fruitful life.*

*“But God doesn’t just tell you to shape up... [A] step is to realize “I need mercies from my Father. I need him to love me and forgive me. I need his strength and forgiveness.” Recognizing wrong leads to awareness that you need something that only God can give you—something he freely gives. He gives himself in Jesus Christ. Cast yourself on the care of your Father. Find grace and help from outside yourself. Seek, and you will find the mercy you need.”—David Powlison*



# Cultivate Modesty

Immodesty: turns a person into an object of selfish desire.

Modesty: helps others resist lust and treat you like a person, not an object.

**1 Timothy 2:9-10**



# Modesty Determined By Comparison



**OTHERS**

**ME**

Pure and Clean?



# Modesty According to Christ

True modesty compares itself to Christ.

Sought to draw attention away from self to God.



A godly young woman will dress to help others think pure thoughts and honor Christ.

# Modesty According to Christ

Modesty is an attitude and a mindset, not just a matter of dress.

Immodesty doesn't bring love—it feeds lust, which devalues and turns people into objects.

Genuine good works and a beautiful spirit win the love and loyalty of another.





# The Reason for Purity—God

Matthew 5:8

Because we were created to know God, we are unsatisfied with anything else.

Only God can truly satisfy us.







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