

7/19/20

Recap of last week's message (7/12/20 - 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8):

Paul calls the church to live lives free of sexual immorality. Some strategies for purity are:

1. For those who are married:

-Make your home and your bed an appealing place to be. A place of affection, trust, not of strife, fear, or unhealthy jealousy.

-Watch your thought life.

-Watch friendships with the opposite sex. Don't share intimate details about your marriage or about your mate.

-Remind yourself of the price of failure in this area (loss of mate, children, job, reputation).

-Don't withhold sex from your mate, 1 Corinthians 7.

2. For those who are single:

-Watch what you expose yourself to : Internet, TV, etc. Don't inflame desire.

-Control your thought life. Don't coddle wrong thoughts.

-Desire God's best for your life; nothing less than Biblical love and relationships. Commit yourself to having God's best, as exemplified by Song of Solomon.

-If you cannot control yourself, marry (1 Corinthians 7).

3. For teens: (see the section on singles above, plus...)

-Determine to glorify God with your whole life.

-Please God above all – not your boyfriend or girlfriend, not your peers.

-You have all of your life before you, keep all of your choices open.

-Wrong choices risk STD's.

-Decide beforehand that you will set a Biblical standard in the area of sex. Don't let passion carry you away.

-Determine you want the best for your life, and for your future mate.

-Learn to delay gratification. Learn to control your body, not the other way around.

4. For those who have fallen:

-As the Compact Guide to the Christian life reminds us: "No sin is too big for God to forgive and cleanse you from."

-Confess you sin to God (1 John 1:9), accept His forgiveness.

-Seek out the Word of God.

-Seek the help of a spiritual mentor.