

Guarding our Hearts against Sexual Idolatry

Here is what we want for you as young men!

1 Jn 2:12-14

One of the major areas that the devil can use is sexual idolatry.

God's Standard of Sexual Purity

1. The body
 - 1 Thess. 4:1-9
 - 1 Cor. 6:18-20
2. The heart and mind
 - Prov. 4:23
 - Job 31:1
 - Matt. 5:27-30
 - Eph. 5:3-7
3. Conversation
 - ³ But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. (Eph 5:3 NIV)

The Threats to Sexual Purity

1. Relationships with girls
 - Prov. 5:15-23; 6:20-35; 7:6-27
2. Internet pornography
 - It is incredibly pervasive -

The Danger of Internet Pornography

1. It violates every standard
 - Mind and heart
 - Conversation
 - This dulls our moral convictions and opens us up to physical sins
 - Masturbation and immorality
 - 1 Cor. 6:15-18
2. It is addicting
 - Prov. 27:20

Demise of Guys, 769

3. Addictions are idols and idols control the heart
Ezek. 14:1-6
Pornography can become consuming and controlling.
4. Idols always want more and pornography in particular by necessity escalates.
The law of diminishing returns
Prov. 27:20
Demise of Guys, 910
5. It ruins one's ability to have healthy relationships with women and ultimately your wife
(The Demise of Guys, loc 133, 477, 564, 976a)

Battling lust and overcoming internet pornography

1. The fight against lust will be a lifelong fight
Rom. 8:13; 13:14
2. The battle against pornography can be won by God's grace
 - a) Confession and accountability
 - b) Starvation
(this actually helps in our battle against lust)
 - c) Renewing heart and mind
3. Know the resources

Conclusion

Pornography is a dangerous idol that Satan uses to enslave our hearts.

If you are enslaved, talk to someone. Get help.

The Gospel sets us free, Christ gives us purpose and meaning in life.

The Gospel is also where we go when we have failed. But it is also where we go for power.

Rom. 6:12-14

1 Cor. 6:12, 19-20

Pornography Resources

“How Pornography Drugs and Changes Your Brain” by Donald Hilton, Jr.

<http://www.salvomag.com/new/articles/salvo13/13hilton.php>

<http://www.albertmohler.com/category/topics/pornography-topics/>

This is a collection of articles by Al Mohler on pornography

Breaking Pornography Addiction - Part 1 (by Dr David Powlison)

<http://www.ccef.org/breaking-pornography-addiction-part-1>

Breaking Pornography Addiction - Part Two

<http://www.ccef.org/breaking-pornography-addiction-part-two>

<http://www.covenanteyes.com/> This website provides accountability.

The Demise of Guys, e-book

Wired for Intimacy: How pornography hijacks the male brain (IVP) William Struthers

Delivered by Desire: The Encouraging Truth about Christians and Sexual Purity (CCW),
Daryl Wingred