

Sanctify Your Sexuality – Overview

God’s designed process for change: **Eph 4:22-24; Rom 12:2**

‘Put Off’ / ‘Conforming’ (sin)	‘Renew Mind’ (principles)	‘Put On / Transforming’ (righteousness)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pornography • Sex outside of marriage • Masturbation • Sexual Fantasy • Flirting • Sexual jokes • Homosexuality • Prostitution <p>(Eph 5:3-4; Pro 5-7; 1 Cor 6:12-20)</p>	<p>Principles for the ‘Put Off’</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sin is an offense against God; it is not just personal (Ps 51:4; Pro 5:21) • Sexual sin is a self-destructing time-bomb (1 Cor 6:18; Pro 5:9-14) • Sexual sin is stupid (Pro 5:23; 6:32; 7:7) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do things that would express your belief in God’s design of marriage and sexuality (Pro 5:17-18; Song of Solomon) • Add things to your life that you know are pleasing to God (Eph 5:10 this verse is the put on of v. 3) • Exercise yourself mentally in things that fit Phil 4:8. • Implement drastic practical commitments to obey 2 Pet 1:5-8 • Christian service (see all the “one another” verses in the NT) • Plan how not to sin (Pro 22:3; 27:12)
<p>Principles for the ‘Put On’</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right thinking about Sex <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sex is to be only with your spouse (1 Cor 7:1-2) ○ Sex is a giving-to-spouse activity; not a taking-for-self activity (1 Cor 7:3-5) ○ Sex is to be valued highly and reserved for its fullest expression in marriage (Pro 5:17-18; Song of Solomon) • Right thinking about Thoughts (Phil 4:8) • Right thinking about Confession and Forgiveness (Ps 32; 51; Pro 28:13; 1 John 1:9-2:2) 		

Principle to keep in mind: Be drastic (Matt 5:27-29; 18:9); but not in the sense of punishing yourself (Christ bore your punishment 1 Pet 2:24), but in the sense of removing opportunities to sin (“tear out the eye”) and creating opportunities for true righteousness and holiness (Eph 4:24). If you feel like a hypocrite for participating in Christian service while committing these sins, then work on ways to stop the sin, not the Christian service (**Gal 6:7-10**)!

Sanctify Your Sexuality – Worksheet

Put Off (my sin)	Renew Mind (biblical motivations)	Put On (my resolutions)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">••••••••	<p>Principles for the 'Put Off'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">••••	<ul style="list-style-type: none">••••••••
	<p>Principles for the 'Put On'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">••••	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•••

Homework accountability partner:

Date for next meeting:

Discerning your Direction – Worksheet

Read Proverbs 7:6-27

Principles to consider from the text

- This young man did not pursue sexual sin – at least not at first.
- This young man didn't explicitly decide to sin sexually.
- This young man started with a small change in direction that seemed unrelated to anything sexual, but ended in sudden sexual shame.
- This young man's primary fault was that he lacked common sense – the rest of his faults merely flowed out of that.

Principles to consider in your own life

- Take your last "failure" in sexual temptation, and see how far back you can trace it to see where you lack the common sense that will keep you from future sin. (Tip: look for passive decisions and passive changes in direction and try to find their causes. Typically it will be something like a moment or habit of laziness, not fulfilling other responsibilities (cf. 2 Sam 11:1 and what resulted), cycles of self-indulgence in other areas, etc.
- Learn to discern your direction in life so that the earliest sign of a change in direction can be spotted.
- Make a list of things you can always be ready to do that return you to the right direction for your life.

Focus on vv. 6-9 & 21-23

This young man did not intentionally walk into vv. 21-23. But, because of the seemingly innocent change of direction in v. 8, he ended in vv. 21-23 nonetheless.

- 1) In the ups-and-downs of your spiritual life, try to identify when exactly the change in direction occurred that ended in sin. What was the first decision or action that in itself seemed innocent enough, but nonetheless still began the slippery slope?
- 2) Also, identify what turned you around again for the better after the sin
- 3) Scheme how you can take the answers to #2 and insert them at the turning points of #1 so that the moment of a change of direction for the worse can be used to increase growth instead.

Remember, in the struggle against sin, the standard of a good use of your time is not "Anything that is not explicit sin", but rather "Everything that is definitely godly".

