

PURITY

- 1) **WHAT** is purity? Clean, undefiled, not corrupt, free from sin or guilt
 - A) Mind – Not looking at someone lustfully. Lustful thoughts, imaginations.
 - # Matthew 5:27, 28 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.
 - B) Body – Any sexually inappropriate actions with our bodies. Not touching sexually. Not having sex with someone outside of marriage.
 - # I. Corinthians 6:18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.
 - C) We will not be completely pure until we get to heaven, but we should strive for purity now. When we sin and have impure thoughts or commit impure acts, we should confess that sin to the Lord and turn away from doing it again.
 - # Ephesians 5:25-27 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

- 2) **WHO** should be pure?
 - A) Those who believe in Jesus Christ as their Saviour. Have you? Purity also has practical benefits for the unbeliever as many of God's principles do.
 - # I. Corinthians 6:13-15 Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body. And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power. Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid.

- 3) **WHY** should we be pure?
 - A) We are the bride of Christ. Someday we will be presented to Christ as His bride.
 - # Revelation 19:7,8 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.
 - # II. Corinthians 11:2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.
 - B) God loves us and has asked us to be pure and holy so out of love in return to Him we should try to please Him.
 - # II. Corinthians 5:14,15 For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.
 - C) Being pure enables us to be useful servants for the Lord.
 - # Romans 6:11-13 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God,

as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

D) To present ourselves possibly to a future husband or wife.

E) To avoid consequences such as unwanted pregnancy, disease, emotional problems-guilt, desires for more, memories.

James 1:14,15 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

4) **HOW** to be pure?

A) It starts with our minds. Movies, music, magazines, internet. Don't think that giving in just one time will satisfy your desires. That only makes you want it more.

Colossians 3:1,2 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

B) Stay away from situations where you might be tempted to look at, think about or do impure things.

Romans 13:14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof.

C) Who your friends are has a big impact on the things that you do. Choose friends wisely. Be aware of people who try to pressure you to be involved in impure things.

1 Corinthians 15:33 Do not be misled: Bad company corrupts good character.

D) Are you dressing or acting in a way that is encouraging other people to lust for you?

Girls – If you are showing or hinting at showing parts of your body that are sexual, then you need to wear something that doesn't.

Guys – Who are you paying attention to? Don't encourage girls to dress immodestly by paying attention to the ones that do.