

A Christian Approach to Sexual Integrity

Worldview Camp – Pine Haven Christian Assembly

Resource Webpage: <https://richknopp.com/worldviewcamp25/>

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Introduction

- A. Refer to the section on “Sexuality” on the chart, “Loving God With My Individual Experience.”
- B. The challenges to sexual integrity.

I. God’s Design from Creation (Gen. 1:27; Matt. 19:4-5)

Gen. 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; _____ **MALE** _____ and _____ **FEMALE** _____ he created them.

Matt. 19:4-5 ⁴ [Jesus] answered, “Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, ⁵ and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become _____ **ONE** _____ _____ **FLESH** _____’?”

II. Warnings Against Immorality

- A. We are called to _____ **HOLINESS** _____ (1 Thess. 4:3-8; Col. 3:5; Rom. 13:13).

1 Thess. 4:3-8 ³ For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; ⁴ that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, ⁵ not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; ⁶ that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. ⁷ For God has not called us for impurity, but in _____ **HOLINESS** _____. ⁸ Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

Col. 3:5 Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is _____ **IDOLATRY** _____.

Rom. 13:13 Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, **not in sexual immorality** and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy.

- B. Immorality has possible eternal consequences: Those engaged in doing some actions “will not inherit the kingdom of God” (1 Cor. 6:9-10; Gal. 5:19-21; Eph. 5:3-5).

1 Cor 6:9-10 Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, shall **inherit** the kingdom of God.

Gal. 5:19-21 ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things **will not inherit the kingdom of God**.

Eph. 5:3-5 ³ But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints.... ⁵ For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has **no inheritance** in the kingdom of Christ and God.

C. Sexual immorality has a different “quality” than other sins (1 Cor. 6:13b,18-19).

1 Cor. 6:13b,18-19 ... The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.... 18 Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is **OUTSIDE** the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own **BODY**. 19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

D. Immorality is not just **PHYSICAL** actions (Matt. 5:27-28; 2 Pet. 2:9-10).

Matt. 5:27-28 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ 28 But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with **LUSTFUL** intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

2 Peter 2:9-10 The Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment, 10 and especially those who indulge in the **LUST** of defiling passion and despise authority.

III. God’s Directives to the Unmarried

A. Marriage is **SERIOUS**.

1 Cor. 7:8-9 8 To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain **SINGLE**, as I am. 9 But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

1 Cor. 7:25-28 25 Now concerning the betrothed, I have no command from the Lord, but I give my judgment as one who by the Lord’s mercy is trustworthy. 26 I think that in view of the present distress it is good for a person to remain as he is. 27 Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free. Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife. 28 But if you do marry, you have not sinned, and if a betrothed woman marries, she has not sinned. Yet those who marry will have worldly **TROUBLES**, and I would spare you that.

B. Do not marry an **UNBELIEVER** (2 Cor. 6:14-15).

2 Cor. 6:14-15 Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? 15 What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever?

IV. Christian Worldview Principles on Sexual Integrity and Identity

A. “Sex” and “gender” are **BIOLOGICAL** matters.

1. Some have made gender a **PSYCHOLOGICAL** matter; they “**FEEL**” like a different gender.

2. Determining gender by one’s feelings is grounded in **SUBJECTIVE** truth, not objective truth.

B. All are created in God’s image and deserve respectful and loving treatment (Gen. 1:27).

C. God loves **EVERYONE**, and so should **YOU**.

D. Jesus brought **GRACE**; yet he also brought **TRUTH** (John 1:17).

E. **ATTRACTION** is **not** **ACTION**, though it can lead to **LUST**.

F. Natural inclinations or attractions do not justify actions.

G. Temptation alone is **not** SIN (James 1:13-15).

James 1:13-15 ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴ But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own DESIRE. ¹⁵ Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to SIN, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

H. We should not condemn some sins and IGNORE others (Matt. 7:3-5).

I. Any sexually immoral action is SINFUL.

J. Scripture characterizes **heterosexual** sexual acts outside of marriage as SINFUL. (See section II above.)

K. Scripture characterizes **homosexual sexual acts** as SINFUL.

1. Be aware: Some Christians are trying to reinterpret Scripture to deny this.

2. But Scripture is clear on this.

Lev. 18:22 You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an ABOMINATION [toevah].

Lev. 20:13 If there is a man who lies with a male as those who lie with a woman, both of them have committed a detestable act [toevah]; they shall surely be put to death. Their bloodguiltiness is upon them. [NOTE: the judgment of death also applies to adultery and to incest.]

Romans 1:26-27 For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their WOMEN exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, 27 and in the same way also the MEN abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

3. Scripture characterizes the acts of **Sodom** as SINFUL.

Ezek. 16:50 [The Sodomites]: Thus they were haughty and committed abominations [toevah] before Me. Therefore I removed them when I saw it.

Jude 7 ⁷ just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, since they in the same way as these indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh, are exhibited as an example in undergoing the punishment of eternal fire.

2 Peter 2:6-10 ⁷ [God] rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men.

L. God can RESCUE and REDEEM anyone.

V. Reflections

A. Pursue HOLINESS in all things.

B. Be strong with TRUTH and steady with GRACE (John 1:14; Eph. 6:10-20).

C. Be SENSITIVE as you interact with those disagree (1 Pet. 3:15b; 2 Tim. 2:24-25; Jude 1:22).

1 Pet. 3:15b ... Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with **gentleness** and **respect**.

2 Tim. 2:24-25 And the Lord's servant must **not be quarrelsome** but must **be kind** to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. ²⁵ **Opponents must be gently instructed**, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth. (NIV)