



How do you draw a line for Holiness & Purity and not cross it?

It begins by being People of the WORD

Proverbs 7:1-5 - “1 My son, keep my words and store up my commands within you. 2 Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye. 3 Bind them on your fingers; write them on the tablet of your heart. 4 Say to wisdom, “You are my sister,” and to insight, “You are my relative.” 5 They will keep you from the adulterous woman, from the wayward woman with her seductive words” (NIV)

By living according to your word (NIV).” Our culture bombards us with words, images, advertisements, movies, TV shows, and pictures that making love before marriage is fun, freeing, and fulfilling. It would be easy to get caught into that lie, to be overwhelmed by peer pressure, if we’re not people of the WORD. We can also see commercials telling us that smoking cigarette and drinking hard drinks will make you become a macho man. But the Word of the Lord says that our body is the temple of the Spirit and we’re not supposed to get drunk because it is considered a sin. God’s Word cleanses us and keeps our way pure. We’re all familiar with the saying, “Garbage In, Garbage Out.” I propose that the opposite is true, too: “Purity In, Purity Out.”

It Entails Running Away from Tempting Situations

James 4:7-8 - “7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded” (NIV)

Entertaining temptation is like driving a truck with TNT, it is dangerous. Some people think they can play with temptation and not get hurt. Some people think they can walk right up to the line and have the will power to not cross over. Some people think they can handle this explosive. “Run away from temptation.” Martin Luther once said, “You can’t keep the birds from flying over your head, but you can keep them from making a nest in your hair.” Or let us put it another way, “If you are on a diet, don’t go to the Krispy Kreme or J Co.”

It is Strengthened by Rehearsing the Consequences

Proverbs 7:21-23 - “21 With persuasive words she led him astray; she seduced him with her smooth talk. 22 All at once he followed her like an ox going to the slaughter, like a deer stepping into a noose 23 till an arrow pierces his liver, like a bird darting into a snare, little knowing it will cost him his life.” (NIV)

Solomon minces no words. To cross the line into SIN will cost you. It will not be a pretty picture: Slaughter. Have you ever been to a slaughter house? If you’re used to the smell, it can make even the strongest of people throw up. Noose/Trap. Have you ever heard the desperate yelp of an animal caught in a trap knowing that death is imminent? It will cause you agony. Snare. Have you seen a bird caught in a web or net unable to free itself? It is a pitiful and tragic sight.

Take any one of those pictures and in similar way is the consequence when one crosses the line into immorality. Many young men and women who had a child while they’re still so young. Some of them were not allowed by their parents to go back to school again. While others are ashamed to go back to their school because they will be laughed at or insulted.

I even counseled some young people who aborted their unwanted babies because of fear and shame. Guilt lasts forever.

The next time you are tempted to cross the line, rehearse the possible consequences of your actions:

Physically - If it is related to sex outside marriage, you may contract sexually transmitted disease like gonorrhea, syphilis, herpes, or AIDS. If you are a drug addict, you can become insane or you can also get HIV. If you are a smoker, you can have lung cancer. If you are a drunkard, you can have liver problem.

Mentally - You will relive the experience in your mind over and over again. It’s often said the mind is like a computer. However, computer’s memory can be erased. Whereas what you experience, especially immorality (like abortion, stealing, or sexual act), is retained for life.

Emotionally - You may lose your self-respect. You’ll have shame and embarrassment upon yourself. You will create a form of guilt that is hard to shake off. Even though God would forgive you, you may find it hard to forgive yourself.

Educationally - Many young people were not able to finish schooling because they got pregnant in an early age. For parents who separated due to adultery, your children may not be able to finish their schooling because of your unfaithfulness.

Financially - I have seen men or women who have left their family for another partner have invited curse upon them financially. For those who are evading tax, one day BIR will go to your office and pester you and you’ll be paying more than what you should be paying for the government.

Relationally - You will destroy the trust of your family. You will lose the respect of your family members.

Spiritually - You will grieve the Lord who redeemed you. You will drag his name in the mud.



Discussion Questions

1. What are your thoughts about purity?
2. How and Why is it important in a Christian’s life?
3. How do you intend to preserve your purity in this time?

Genesis 1:26-27 - “26 Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” 27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.”

When the word of the Lord says that we’re created in the image of God, it’s not talking about the physical appearance. People often think that it is our nature to sin. But I beg to disagree. Genesis 1:26a-27 - “26 Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness...” 27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them (NIV).” We’re created to be holy. Therefore, it is natural for us to be holy. This is why we feel guilty when we hurt other people.

However, when Adam and Eve disobeyed the command of God, they allowed sin to overcome them and affect us. But...the sin that is rapidly increasing now in our nation is SEX before marriage. People can’t wait anymore for marriage before consummation. Love is not enough reason to get married.” The message is that having SEX with anyone you love - or think you love - is perfectly acceptable. The idea that making love should be reserved for marriage is looked down as an outdated notion held by “religious” people who are missing out on something good.

Peter 1:15-16 - “15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy (NIV).”” God commanded us to be holy. He told us to keep ourselves pure.