

Porn?

God is No Prude - A Picture of God's View of Sex

Genesis 1:28 "And God blessed them. And God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply...'"

- We have a God who was personally involved in the design of the activity of sex.
- Some say, "God created sex for procreation."

Song of Solomon 7:1-2 "How beautiful are your feet in sandals, O noble daughter! Your rounded thighs are like jewels, the work of a master hand. Your navel is a rounded bowl that never lacks mixed wine. Your belly is a heap of wheat, encircled with lilies."

Song of Solomon 7:3-9 "Your two breasts are like two fawns, twins of a gazelle. Your neck is like an ivory tower. Your eyes are pools in Heshbon, by the gate of Bath-rabbim. Your nose is like a tower of Lebanon, which looks toward Damascus." "Your head crowns you like Carmel, and your flowing locks are like purple; a king is held captive in the tresses. How beautiful and pleasant you are, O loved one, with all your delights! Your stature is like a palm tree, and your breasts are like its clusters. I say I will climb the palm tree and lay hold of its fruit." "Oh may your breasts be like clusters of the vine, and the scent of your breath like apples, and your mouth like the best wine."

- *This is "Righteous desire"*. He is looking at his bride, looking at his wife, and he likes what he sees.
- Sex is not just a gift for procreation but is also a gift for pleasure.
- God is pro-sex. God is not against it.
- God is not trying to rob from you any experiences.
- He's not trying to take from you anything in regard to this gift.
- He is the author of the gift, likes the gift to be celebrated.

There Must Some Kind of Catch ... and There Is!

Genesis 2:24 "Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."

- God's View of Sex, While Not Prudish, Is Contrary to Culture's View
 - Sex goes well beyond a *mere* physical act.
 - The Bible says that what happens in the physical act of sex is two people become one (and that does happen physically).
 - But, the Bible teaches us that two people become one in *more* ways than just physically.
 - The Hebrew word for marital connective sex is ***dod***. It literally translates "a mingling of souls".
 - Sex is not just a physical act, but also a deeply spiritual, emotional, and mental act.
 - So, to treat sex like it's a mere physical act is to put your mind, soul, and heart at risk.

1 Corinthians 6:15-18 "Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, 'The two will become one flesh.' But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body."

- Of all the sins one can walk in, there's one that's a sin against our own bodies, that wounds our own body, that cuts us deeply in the soul, in the emotions, in the heart, in the mind.
 - It is the sin of sexual immorality.
 - *Positively*: God's plan for sex is far greater than the world's definition of what sex is.
 - What God has in mind through the physical act of sex is that within a covenant relationship, a ferociously-committed is not "I *feel* things about you," but, "I'm ferociously committed to you."
 - *Negatively*: When we're just treating it as a physical act, we're actually doing things to damage our souls of which we can be completely unaware or only you can feel deep down.

The Results of Each View (God's & Culture's)

1. If culture's view of sexuality is correct ...
2. If God's view of sexuality is correct ...

Pornography Questions

What is lust? - "Lust is a thought that I cherish and entertain and hold onto, that if I did what I thought, it would clearly be sin."

What is porn? – "Porn is anything that you view, read or listen to that stimulates you toward lust. "

- A few alarming statistics of pornography
 - Ninety percent of children between the ages of eight and sixteen have viewed internet porn—most of them accidentally.
 - The average age for the first time that a child is exposed to pornography is eleven.
 - The number one consumer of porn twelve to seventeen-year-old boys.
 - As many as 1 in 4 internet searches is for pornography.
 - Every second 30,000 people are viewing pornography on the internet.
 - In 56% of all divorce cases, one party had an obsessive interest in pornography.
 - The viewing of pornography increases the infidelity rate 300%.

Who Does Pornography Hurt? (Isn't It a "Victimless Crime" and a "Guilty Pleasure"?)

- Porn Hurts the Heart of God

Genesis 6:4-6 In those days, and for some time after, giant Nephilites lived on the earth, for whenever the sons of God had intercourse with women, they gave birth to children who became the heroes and famous warriors of ancient times. 5 The LORD observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth, and he saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil. 6 So the LORD was sorry he had ever made them and put them on the earth. It broke his heart.

- Porn Hurts Marriages
 - Pornography is not oneness between a husband and wife, because it's including others.
 - Pornography is not nakedness without shame. It is using shame to make something God created beautiful, dark and despicable.
- Porn Hurts the Viewer

1 Corinthians 6:12 "I have the right to do anything," you say--but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"--but ***I will not be mastered by anything.***

 - Pornography year in and year out takes in more money than all three professional sports combined.
- Porn Hurts Women
 - Women in the industry
 - Women not in the industry
- Porn hurts people.
 - **Three Overarching Catastrophic Effects of Porn on People**
 1. Pornography is devastating because it dehumanizes its individuals.
 2. Pornography is debilitating because it rewires the brain.
 3. Porn is demoralizing because it moves us away from God as the source of pure joy and abundant life.

Psalms 43:4 Then I will go to the altar of God, to ***God, my joy and my delight.***

John 15:9-11 ***As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.*** ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ ***I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.***

How Can We Protect Ourselves and Those We Love?

<http://www.just1clickaway.org/>

<http://www.covenanteyes.com/>

<http://www.wikihow.com/Filter-Porn-Web-Sites-on-Your-Computer>

<http://www.x3watch.com/>

<http://www.netnanny.com>

<http://ipod.about.com/od/KidsiPhoneiPodTouch/tp/Nine-Things-Before-Giving-Kids-Ipod-Touch-Iphone.htm>

(Setting up iPhone for child/teen safety)

<http://www.crazyandroid.com/android-parental-control-3-ways-to-protect-your-child/>

(Setting up an Android phone for child/teen safety)

Books

Stephen Arterburn – The “Every Man” Series

Joshua Harris - Sex Is Not the Problem, Lust Is (Book & Workbooks)

What Jesus Says (Is there any hope?)

- A severe warning

Matthew 5:27-29 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell."

Matthew 5:30 "And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell."

1. The greatest weapon we have in your battle against lustful intent is a vibrant, growing, passionate relationship with Jesus Christ.

- Christianity is not a list of do's and don'ts; it's a living relationship with God. It is a vibrant, growing relationship as we've been reconciled to God through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- It's not ultimately about behavior modification; our need is heart transformation.

2. The next greatest weapon we have in your battle against lustful intent is God's wisdom on how to live.

Ephesians 5:15-17 Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁻⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

- We want to be studying the Word of God, not to know the Word of God but to know the God of the Word.
- We want to be prayerful.
- We want to be walking in community.
- We want there to be confession and repentance as marks of our lives.
 - Then we want to walk in wisdom.

3. Know that the grace of God can cover our sin of pornography, lust and coveting.

Psalms 51:7-12 Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. ⁹ Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. ¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Statistics taken from the following sources:

<http://www.covenanteyes.com/2013/02/19/pornography-statistics/>

http://www.familysafemedia.com/pornography_statistics.html

<http://www.internetsafety101.org/Pornographystatistics.htm>

<https://wsr.byu.edu/pornographystats>

<http://unitedfamiliesinternational.wordpress.com/2010/06/02/14-shocking-pornography-statistics/>

SCRIPTURAL ADMONITIONS REGARDING PORNOGRAPHY

1. **Job 31:1** "I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a girl."
2. **Psalms 101:3** "I will set before my eyes no vile thing. The deeds of faithless men I hate, they will not cling to me."
3. **Philippians 4:8** "Keep your thought on whatever is right...pure."
4. **I Corinthians 6:18-20** "Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body."
5. **Romans 6:13** "Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness."
6. **I Thessalonians 4:3-4** "It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable."
7. **I Peter 2:11** "Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul."
8. **James 1:14** "But each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed."
9. **Hebrews 13:4** "Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral."
10. **Ephesians 5:3** "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."
11. **2 Timothy 2:22** "Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart."
12. **Matthew 5:28** "But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart."
13. **I Timothy 5:1-2** "Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity."
14. **Galatians 5:19-20** "The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, divisions."
15. **Romans 13:13-14** "Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desire of the sinful nature."
16. **Proverbs 6:27** "Can a man scoop fire into his lap without his clothes being burned?"

Additional Resources to Shield from Unwanted Internet Sites & Cell Phone Protection – Thanks to Brian Mays for the following important information!

OpenDNS.com – free (for home use) web filtering service

Router/Firewall logging – turn on the built-in logging in your router/firewall. If you don't have a router/firewall...get one. It will protect your network as well as allow you to see what is going in and out on a basic level.

Cellular parental controls – most of the big cellular providers now have a parental control service (for a fee of course). You can put limits/boundaries on phone, text, and web usage. You can turn on web filtering. You can set limits on what they are able to purchase on their phone such as ringtones, etc.

Mobile device management systems – Ipods, Ipads, tablets, cell phones and the like can be monitored and usage boundaries set via an agent installed on the device which is controlled by the management system. You have full access to allow/disallow any function including what can be installed on the devices. You can even remove items which should not be on the device. The agent cannot be removed unless you know the password or you wipe the device. MobileIron and Airwatch are the two most popular service providers. There is a monthly fee per device.

Parental controls in a locally installed “Internet Security” product – most of the antivirus companies have “Internet Security” products which go a lot farther at protecting your machine than antivirus alone. Most of these products have built-in (or add-on) parental controls.