

- Unmet _____ needs of a woman & _____ needs of a man.

Proverbs 30:21-23: “Under three things the earth trembles, under four it cannot bear up: ²²a servant who becomes king, a fool who is full of food, ²³an unloved woman who is married, and a maidservant who displaces her mistress.

- An _____ where temptation thrives.

How to Overcome Sexual Temptation: A Three Step Plan from the Life of Joseph in Genesis 39:1-23

STEP #1: Develop _____ for God.

GENESIS 39:6-10: “Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, ⁷ and after a while his master’s wife took notice of Joseph and said, “Come to bed with me!” ⁸ But he refused. “With me in charge,” he told her, “my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care. ⁹No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?” ¹⁰ And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.”

KEY QUESTIONS: *How did Joseph acquire such reverence for God? What enabled him to respond the way he did?*

1 Timothy 4:7: “train yourself to be godly”

James 4:8: “Come near to God and he will come near to you.”

STEP #2: Make a _____ to _____ Sin.

GENESIS 39:6-10: “Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, ⁷ and after a while his master’s wife took notice of Joseph and said, “Come to bed with me!” ⁸ But he refused. “With me in charge,” he told her, “my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care. ⁹No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do

such a wicked thing and sin against God?” ¹⁰ And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.”

Job 31:1: “I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a girl.”

Daniel 1:8: “But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way.”

STEP #3: _____ for Your _____.

GENESIS 39:11-23: “One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside. ¹² She caught him by his cloak and said, “Come to bed with me!” But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house. ¹³ When she saw that he had left his cloak in her hand and had run out of the house, ¹⁴ she called her household servants. “Look,” she said to them, “this Hebrew has been brought to us to make sport of us! He came in here to sleep with me, but I screamed. ¹⁵ When he heard me scream for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house.” ¹⁶ She kept his cloak beside her until his master came home. ¹⁷ Then she told him this story: “That Hebrew slave you brought us came to me to make sport of me. ¹⁸ But as soon as I screamed for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house.” ¹⁹ When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, “This is how your slave treated me,” he burned with anger. ²⁰ Joseph’s master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined. But while Joseph was there in the prison, ²¹ the Lord was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden. ²² So the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there. ²³ The warden paid no attention to anything under Joseph’s care, because the Lord was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did.”

2 Timothy 2:20-22: “In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. ²¹ If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work. 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.”

FINAL THOUGHTS

Are you overcoming sexual temptation, or is sexual temptation overcoming you?

Victory in the Christian life is found by...

- Developing **REVERENCE** for God.
- Making a pre-decision to **REFUSE** sin.
- Deciding to **RUN** for your life.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What do the following passages teach us about God's view of sexual immorality, adultery and lust (Matthew 5:27-30; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Corinthians 6:18-20; Job 31:1; Ephesians 5:3-5)?
2. Why do you think God forbids us to engage in pre-marital sex? Try to answer this question by reflecting on the passages listed in question #1.
3. Ephesians 5:3 tells us that we must not have even 'a hint of sexual immorality, or any kind of impurity' in our lives. What does Paul mean by his use of the word 'hint' in this passage? Without answering this question out loud, would you describe your life as one free from even the hint of impurity? If not, what do you need to do to become more holy?
4. How can you teach your children the importance of sexual purity?
5. In Proverbs, Solomon writes to his 'sons' regarding the subject of sexual purity (Read Proverbs 4:1-26). In this passage he makes reference to how his father (David) taught him to abstain from sexual sin. Take time to read through Proverbs 4:23-7:27 and the advice Solomon passed on to his sons. As you read, make a list from Solomon's advice of things you can do to protect your heart from sexual sin.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES:

Stephen Arterburn & Fred Stoeker, "Every Man's Battle: Every Man's Guide to Winning the War on Sexual Temptation One Victory at a Time", WaterBrook Press, 2000.

Shannon Ethridge, "Every Woman's Battle: Discovering God's Plan for Sexual and Emotional Fulfillment," WaterBrook Press.

Be sure to check out the youth version of both of these books: "Every Young Man's Battle", "Preparing Your Son for Every Man's Battle", and "Every Young Woman's Battle".

For help protecting yourself and your family from Internet porn and pervers check out: www.covenanteyes.com or visit our Resource Table for information on this ministry.

HEROES OF THE FAITH: Lessons From the Lives of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob & Joseph

Today's Message: "How to Overcome Sexual Temptation" Genesis 39

03.22.09 / SMC / Pastor Cory Anderson

INTRODUCTION:

GENESIS 39:1-7: "Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there. ²The Lord was with Joseph and he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. ³When his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord gave him success in everything he did, ⁴Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. ⁵From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the Lord blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of the Lord was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field. ⁶So he left in Joseph's care everything he had; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate. Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, ⁷and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!"

FACTORS LEADING TO SEXUAL TEMPTATION

- _____ Attraction.

1 Timothy 2:9-10: "*I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety*, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, ¹⁰but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God."

Matthew 5:27-30: "You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' ²⁸But I tell you that *anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.* ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell."