

IN HIS IMAGE

February 25, 2024 | Not for Porneia

WARM UP QUESTION: Who do you turn to for advice?

READ: 1 Corinthians 6:13

FOCUS: Sex went wrong when humanity rebelled, but God came in a human body to make things right.

OBSERVE:

- Sex is meant to be an act that bears the image of God in the context of a unified, safe, faithful, self-giving and loving marriage between one man and one woman. However, outside of God's purposes, it can be very destructive, and its negative results can extend to children, family, marriage and society.
- The world presents a broken view of sex that is transactional and disregards God's design for us as male and female. The world wants us to believe "you only live once". This is not true because God will resurrect our bodies and we will be rewarded based on what we have done in and with our bodies in this life.
- When sex is driven by idolatry and/or *lust* instead of the *Lord*, it becomes perverted. The enemy wants to use sex to pervert not just our sexuality but our destiny. We can receive strength from Jesus' example. Jesus' power to be victorious over His cravings is available to us when we believe in Him and what He did for us on the cross. When we believe in Him, we are forgiven, enter into a loving relationship with God and receive salvation, wholeness and healing.

REFLECT:

- What are the ways that you have tried to fight for your purity in the past? What has been successful or unsuccessful?
- Choose today and every day that you will fight for the victory Christ has purchased for you. Remember that one moment of failure does not mean you are a failure. One day of failing does not mean tomorrow won't be victorious. What are some ways you can allow Jesus to restore hope to you daily?

TAKING ACTION:

- Don't fight alone! Find 2-3 people who you can mutually partner with to help each other take their next steps toward purity and removing tempting or dangerous situations.
- Consider joining our upcoming discipleship classes to continue pursuing freedom and walking out your discipleship journey.

PRAY: *Lord Jesus, thank You for loving us enough to design good for us and to want the best for us. Jesus, help us to put our trust in You that You will enable us to say 'no' to temptation and walk in the freedom that purity provides. Lord, we submit our desires to You and we choose Your will and not our own, in Jesus' name we pray, amen.*