Date | January 29, 2023 Family Theme | Pure Living
Study Text | 1 Corinthians 6:9-20; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8; Colossians 3:5-6

Objective: Family members submit to God's will for sexuality and develop strategies to live a life of purity.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: Paul's teaching on how we should use God's gift of sexuality complements such teaching all through the Scriptures.

Bible Basics: Memorize Psalm 51:10 this week and work with family members to do so.

Read the Word: 1 Corinthians 6:9-20; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8; Colossians 3:5-6

Disciple Your Kids

At your discretion and at your children's level, talk with them about God's design and desire for pure living and the boundaries He has given us to follow.



Key Truth: Do Not Be Deceived by the World's Views of Sexuality (1 Corinthians 6:9-20)

- Many sexual sins have become acceptable in our culture despite the consequences of those sins. God, however, has given us boundaries for our own good. Those who make an ongoing practice of these and other sins will not inherit the kingdom of God. God, however, is able to cleanse and change believers when they repent and trust Christ (verses 9-11).
- The Corinthian culture seemed to believe it is all right to give our bodies whatever they crave, including sex. Paul, however, taught that we should not be enslaved by our urges. Our bodies belong to the Lord, not to sexual immorality. Let us allow God's power to help us remain pure (verses 12-14)
- When we belong to Christ and have the Holy Spirit, we take Him and involve Him in everything we do. Therefore, when we commit sexual sin we have involved Christ in it. With this in mind, we must flee sexual sin and be reminded that our bodies belong to and were bought by Christ (verses 18-20).



Key Truth: God's Will for Sexual Activity Is Best for Us (1 Thessalonians 4:3-8)

- It is God's will that we abstain from sexual sin. To do so we must learn how to control our bodies in purity and honor, refusing to be carried away by the lust that dominates this world. When we engage in sexual sin we harm others. We are called to a lifestyle of holiness (verse 3-8).
- God will judge sexual sin. However, sex within marriage is pleasurable, fulfilling, and God's design. It is not just right; it is also best. The biblical answer to our world's approach to sex is marriage and the sexual union it provides (Hebrews 13:4).



Key Truth: Sexual Immorality Must Be Put to Death (Colossians 3:5-6)

Because sexual sin is so damaging and God's way is best, we must put to death sexual sin. This means
we will need to take whatever steps necessary to avoid or disentangle from these kinds of sins. This
may mean changing our reading and viewing habits, and our Internet browsing patterns. We need God's
power to enable us to be pure (verses 5-6).

Parent Note:

The elementary lesson focused more on the general need to resist temptations and to seek God's help for purity in their thoughts, words, and actions. Please provide more specific teaching depending on the maturity and readiness of your children. It is important to provide biblical training to counter the teaching that culture introduces even at young ages.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with family members this week. Questions in **bold** will be good to use with elementary age children.

- What is God's design for sex? When is it a good thing and when is it sinful?
- How are the world's views and practices regarding sex different from God's design for sex?
- Why is God's design for sexuality best for us?
- What are some problems that come with sex outside of marriage between one man and one woman?
- The Bible tells us to put sin to death. What does that mean? How can we put sexual sin to death?
- What can we do that will help us remain sexually pure?
- · Why is it important to guard what we see, hear, and think?
- How can giving in to temptation damage your relationship with God?
- As believers, who helps us make choices that please God? What should we do when we choose sin over God's way?

Everyday Extras

Find two glasses in your cabinet — one from your prettiest and finest crystal, and one that is common and ordinary. Secretly smear some dirt in the beautiful glass. Then offer your children a taste of cool, refreshing water. Describe the exterior of the two glasses and explain how expensive and special the beautiful one is. Then pour the water and ask your children to choose which glass they would like to drink from. Obviously, no one will want to choose the beautiful glass, no matter how lovely or expensive it seems to be on the outside. Together, wash the beautiful glass and refill it with water again. When our choices are not pure, God cannot use us. We want to keep our minds and our actions clean so that God is pleased with us.

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE & ROUND

Today your child learned the Devil tried to get Jesus to sin two more times by telling Him a lie and daring Him to do something dangerous. Jesus knew what God's Word said and He used verses from the Bible to fight against the Devil. **The Bible Is for Everyone** and it can help us when the Devil tempts us to sin. God's Word is powerful!