

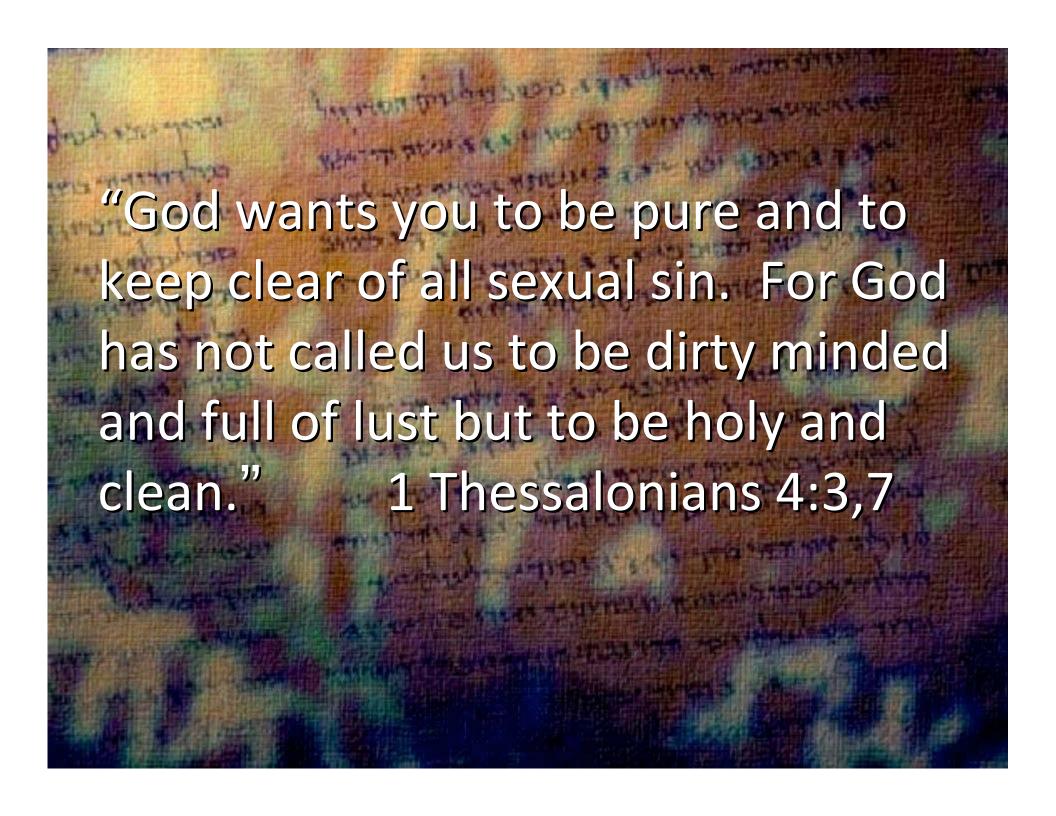
Today as I joined my family at the first of the memorial services, I felt grief at his passing. But, as I stood over the casket this morning I was comforted in knowing that with all of the gifts that my father had given to the nation that the greatest gift he had given to me was knowing that at one o'clock Saturday afternoon when my father closed his eyes for the last time he went to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. A finer gift cannot be given to a son.





Michael Reagan speaking about his father, President Ronald Reagan





HOW TO STAY PURE IN A SEX-SATURATED WORLD



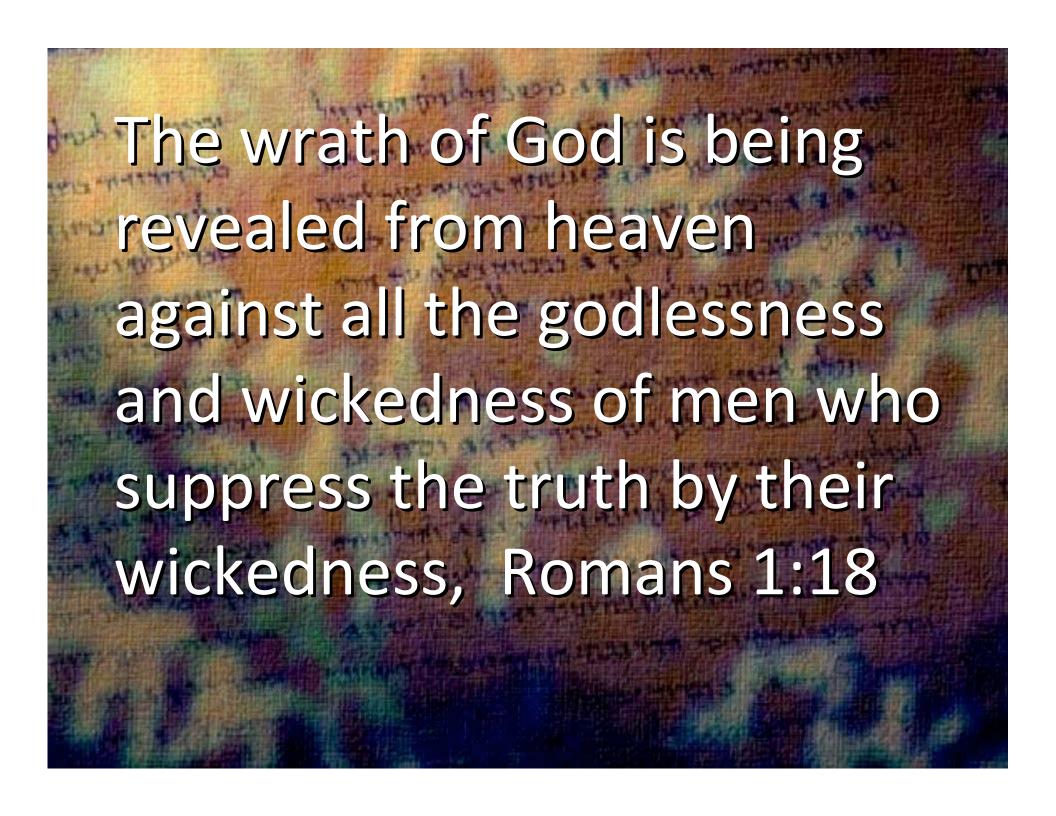
I. Make a commitment to God's Standard

Remember, there is only one foundation, the one already laid: Jesus Christ. Take particular care in picking out your building materials. Eventually there is going to be an inspection. If you use cheap or inferior materials, you'll be found out. The inspection will be thorough and rigorous.

1 Corinthians 3:13,14 the Message

"How can anyone keep his way pure? By living according to Your Word." Psalm 119:9



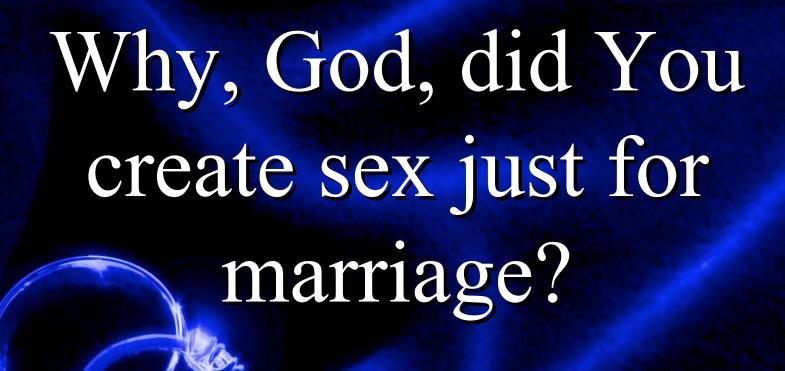


God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, 27 and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of Romans 1:26,27 their error.

God Created Sex for Three Purposes.



1. For pleasure between a husband and wife



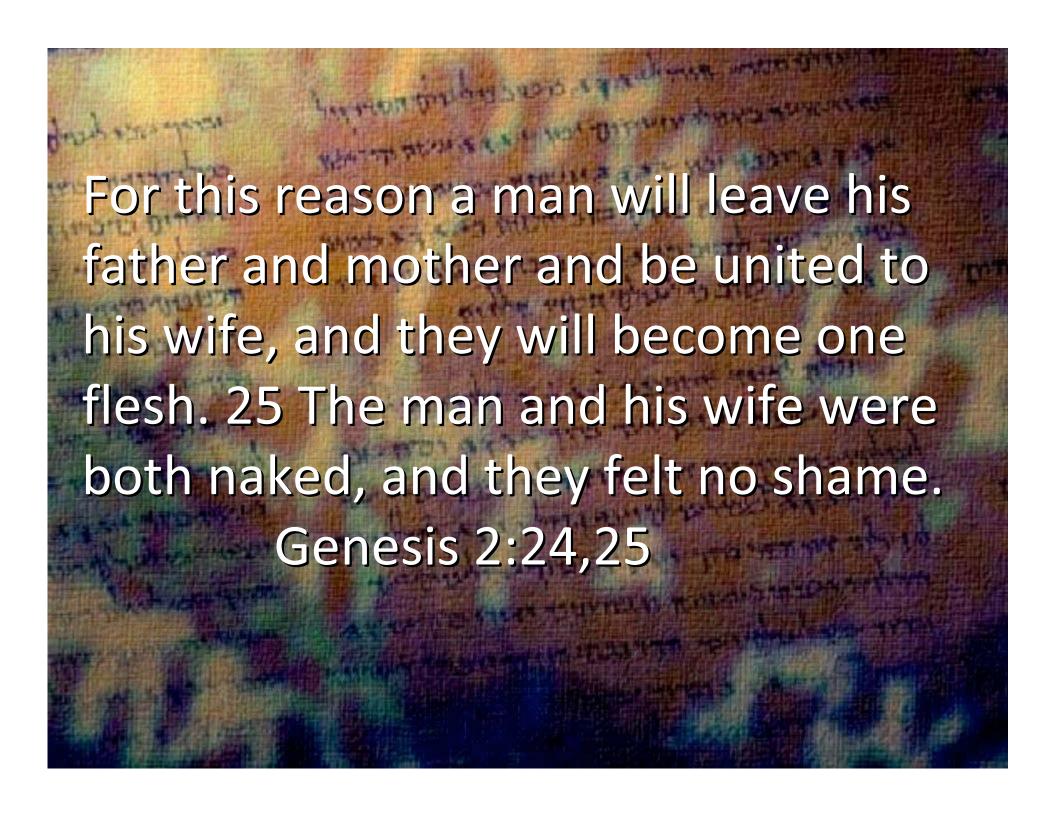
Honor marriage and guard the sacredness of sexual intimacy. [It doesn't say the evilness]; it says "the sacredness" between wife and husband. God draws a firm line against casual and illicit sex.

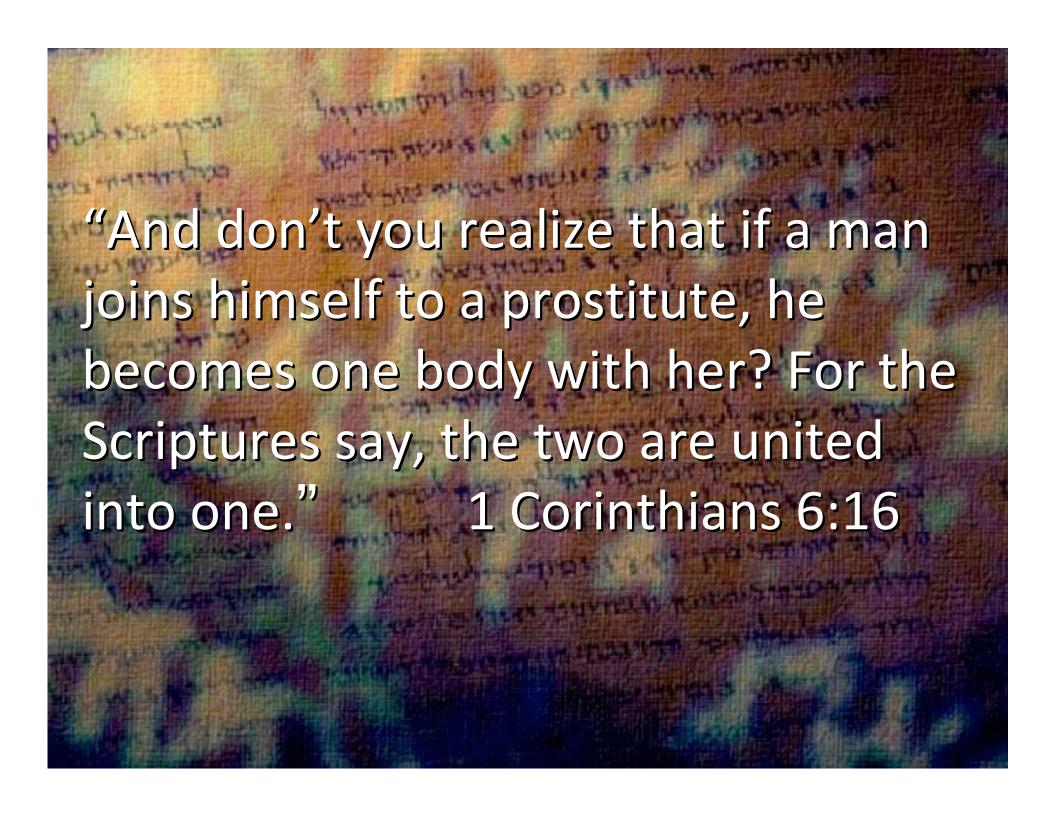
Hebrews 13:4

God Created Sex for Three Purposes.



2. For physical, emotional and spiritual bonding

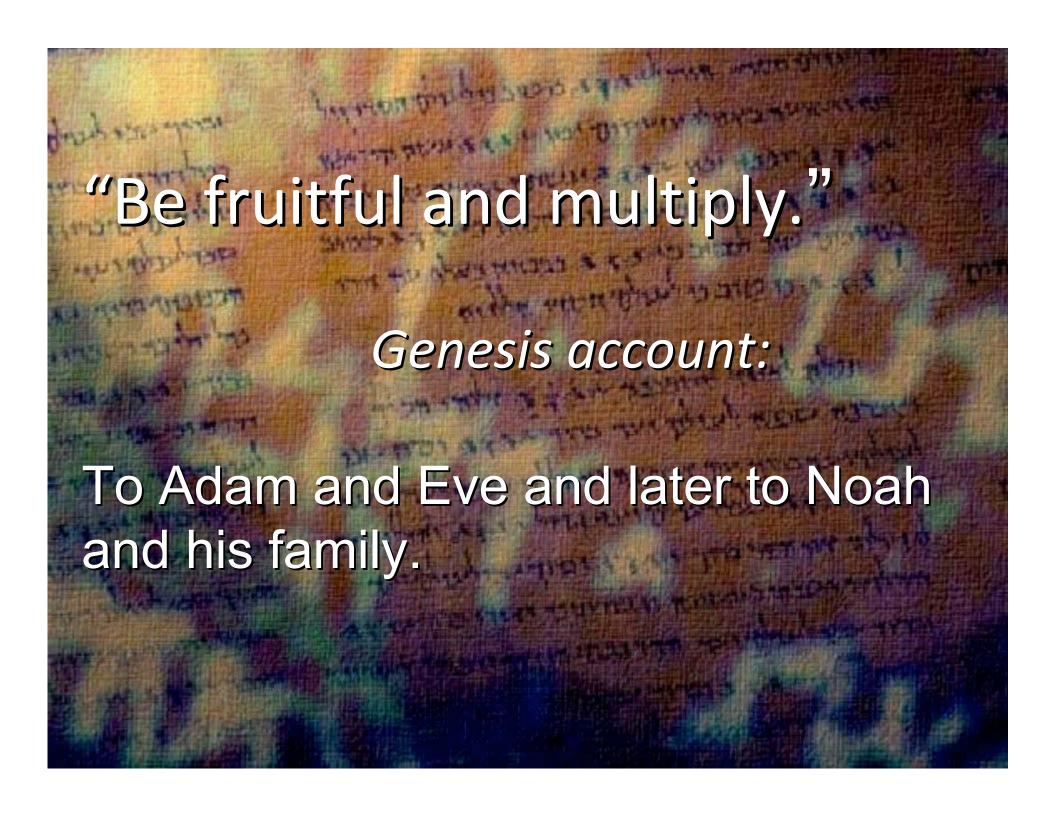




God Created Sex for Three Purposes.



3. For procreation



HOW TO STAY PURE IN A SEX-SATURATED WORLD



II. Manage your mind.



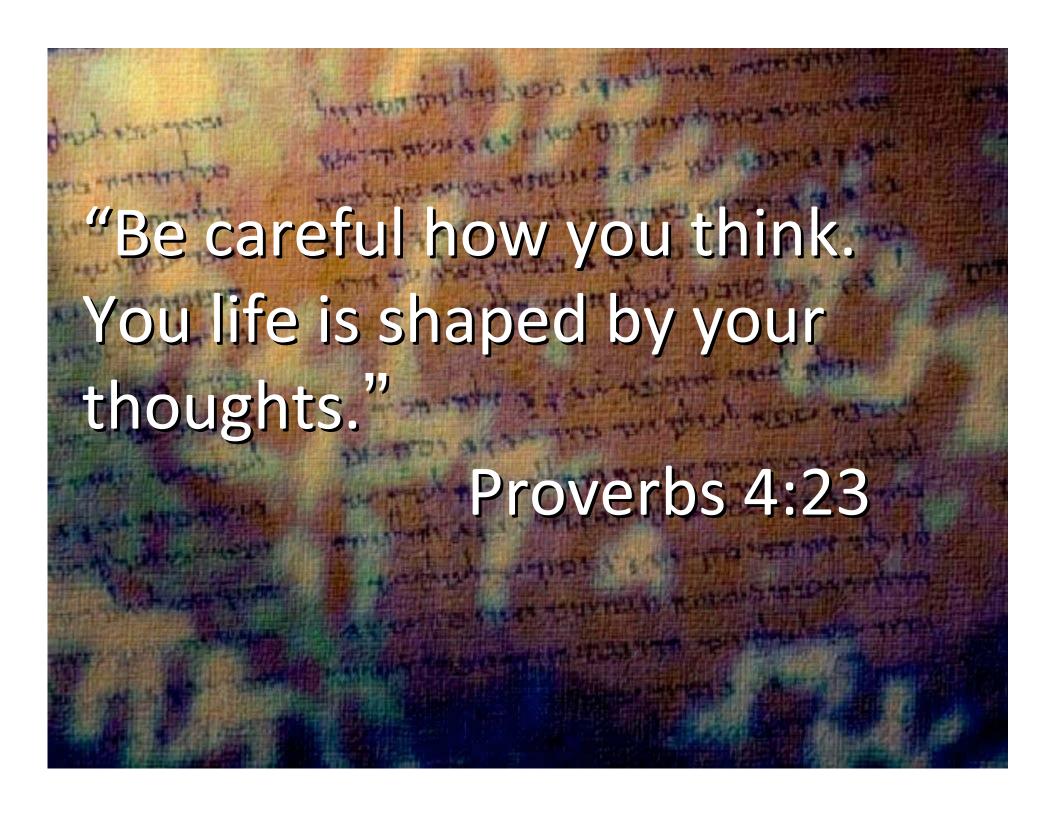


1st Pitfall to avoid:

1. Don't allow <u>sinful thoughts</u> into your mind

Principal:

What you think about will eventually effect how you feel and how you feel will eventually somehow come out in your behavior or how you act.



"Turn your back on lustful thoughts and give your positive attention to goodness, integrity, love, and peace." 2 Timothy 2:22 (Philips Translation)





2nd Pitfall to avoid:

2. Avoid <u>emotional</u>, <u>non-physical</u> involvement





3rd Pitfall to avoid:

3. Avoid <u>physical</u> involvement



These Pitfalls will lead:

rationalizations of behavior

"The heart is deceitful and desperately wicked. Who can know it?" Jeremiah 17:9



Do I embrace my sin or am I ashamed?



Find a trusted friend, make your confession, and be accountable



Keep confessing!!!



Control your thought life with all that you are



Ask for God's help with temptation



Fast after failure

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. James 4:7

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it. 1 Corinthians 10:13





What is the path back to God look like if I've failed?

1st and foremost:

BE REPENTANT



What is the path back to God look like if I've failed?

2. You receive forgiveness

David in Psalm 51 A Cry of Repentance

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Psalm 51:1-3

8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Psalm 51:8,12





What is the path back to God look like if I've failed?

3. You love God and others.

Jesus with the Pharisee named Simon

Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." ...41"Two men owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he canceled the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more? 43Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt canceled." "You have judged correctly," Jesus said.

44Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. 45You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. 46You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. 47Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little." Luke 7:40-47

