

MY PURITY

"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." – Ephesians 5:3

DAVID'S STORY

When I was a young, single guy, drugs were never my thing. Neither was alcohol. My drug of choice was porn. As a student at Middle Tennessee State University, I completed 5 years of my undergraduate degree without the benefit of a cell phone, a computer, or the Internet. I had to feed my flesh with dirty magazines and X-rated VHS movies. I even visited adult books stores. It was embarrassing back in those days to obtain porn.

THE PORN MATRIX

My lust was so bad I could physically feel it. My ungodly, unbiblical, and immoral sexual relationships with women before I got married had taken a devastating toll on my spiritual life. Once upon a time, I was an on-fire young man for Jesus, and then I allowed myself to be in the wrong place at the wrong time with the wrong people, doing the wrong things. That is a prescription for disaster.

Today, anyone, anywhere, at any time, is only a few clicks away from the most hardcore pornographic material imaginable. Like Neo in The Matrix movies, porn can lead men into an alternate reality universe. I fell for some of the lies listed below, but found the pathway to purity that I want to share with you.



25 LIES OF PORN

1. PORNOGRAPHY is just another form of entertainment.
2. PORNOGRAPHY is normal.
3. PORNOGRAPHY won't hurt me.
4. PORNOGRAPHY won't affect my behavior.
5. PORNOGRAPHY won't hurt my family.
6. PORNOGRAPHY will satisfy.
7. PORNOGRAPHY won't lead to more dangerous activities.

8. A little PORNOGRAPHY is alright.
9. I can stop whenever I want to (or, I just can't stop).
10. I can keep this a secret and no one will know.
11. My small purchase is not supporting the problem.
12. All guys do a little PORNOGRAPHY.
13. Women are less than human.
14. Women are a sport (e.g., *Sports Illustrated* swimsuit issue).
15. Women are property.
16. A woman's value depends on the attractiveness of her body.
17. Women enjoy being physically overpowered and being treated violently during sex (e.g., rape).
18. Women should be degraded.
19. Young children enjoy having sex.
20. Illegal sex is fun.
21. Prostitution is glamorous.
22. Sex has no consequences (e.g., pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases).
23. I could never tell anyone about my struggle with PORNOGRAPHY.
24. PORNOGRAPHY is an unpardonable sin.
25. God hates those who struggle with PORNOGRAPHY.

MY BREAKTHROUGH

I had enough of God in me to be miserable in my sin, and enough of sin in me to be miserable in church. I was what the Bible calls a hypocrite. But the saints were praying for me. Like the prodigal son in the pig pen (Matthew 15), I began to have a spiritual awakening. I learned about the steps to freedom, which we will discuss in the "My Freedom" session. I learned about breaking ungodly soul ties, which we will learn about in this session. And, most importantly, I received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, which we will talk about in the "My Encounter" session. For me, it took a combination of things to get free from my addiction to porn.

