

Sexual Temptation and How to Withstand It

*(I have borrowed from 3 great books besides the Bible: Rick Warren's The Purpose Driven Life , Robert Lewis' Raising a Modern Day Knight , and John Eldredge's Wild at Heart.)

How Satan Uses Sexual Temptation Against Us

2 Sam 11:1-5

11:1 In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem.

2 One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, 3 and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "Isn't this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" 4 Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (She had purified herself from her uncleanness.) Then she went back home. 5 The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant." NIV

1. Satan identifies a desire inside of you. (You want your question answered)
2. He gets you to doubt what God has said about the sin. ("Has God really said?")
3. He deceives you regarding sin's consequences. (4 broken relationships)
4. You believe Satan's lies and you disobey. (You step out of God's Kingdom with its protection and blessings)

How to Withstand Sexual Temptation

***Remember, the "law" produces death; God's "grace" produces life!**

Rom 6:14-18 14 For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace. 15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! 16 Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey-whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? 17 But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. 18 You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. NIV

1. Reveal your struggle to a Godly friend or support group. (Sin grows in the dark!)
2. Resist the Devil using God's Word as your weapon. (Memorize & meditate)
3. Realize your vulnerability. "don't get cocky!" (Pride comes before ___?___)

4. **Refocus your attention on becoming a *real man*. VIP**

Regaining Our Masculinity (Destroying Sexual Addiction at Its Roots)

The Three Building Blocks of Manhood

1. A *real man* ("a man after God's own heart" - Acts 13:22) embraces a **vision for manhood** that includes:
 - a. rejecting passivity - Ex. 15:2-3
 - b. accepting responsibility - Luke 12:48
 - c. leading courageously - 1 Cor 16:13
 - d. laboring for God's greater reward - 2 Cor 5:9-10

2. A *real man* lives by a **code of conduct** which includes:
 - a. *yielding* to God's Word rather than to his feelings - John 14:21
 - b. *seeking* a work to do - Matt 28:19 (If the man is married, this work must include loving, honoring, and leading his wife - Eph 5:25-33.)

3. A *real man* seeks a **transcendent cause** (a mission that lifts a man beyond himself; a passion that stirs him to self-sacrifice and causes him to contribute to the larger community) 1 Cor 3:12-15. This cause must be:
 - a. **truly heroic** (an undertaking that will require self-denial)
 - b. **timeless** (2 things from our existence will survive the "big melt down" of 2 Pet 2:10-13 *the Word of God and the souls of men*)
 - c. **supremely meaningful** (an ideal worth dying for)

1 Cor 9:24-10:1 24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. 25 Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. 26 Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. 27 No, I beat my body

and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize. NIV

Consequences of Viewing Pornography

1. It exploits and degrades people.
2. It undermines families.
3. It distorts personal and social relationships.
4. It reduces the gift of sexuality to a level that lacks personal dignity, human tenderness, mutual love and ethical commitment which are part of God's plan.

"Pornography ... is against the divine image within us, against the soul -- of the model, of the user, of the society. But a society that does not believe in a soul cannot make that argument." -- Dennis Prager