

SERMON NOTES

Dr. David A. Renwick -- March 14, 2010

7 Deadly Sins (Deceptions): Gluttony & Lust

Genesis 25:29-34 ; Matthew 5:27-29; Job 31:1-2, 5-8; Song of Solomon 8:1-4

Deadly:

1. **Deceitful:** promising much but delivering little; 2. **Destructive:** especially in relationships with God and others; 3. **Complex:** an aspect of them may not always be wrong . . . but how do you know when?

Books and Articles

I strongly recommend that couples choose a resource and read it together, and not alone. Please note, as with many books that I recommend: I don't necessarily agree with all the content . . . I believe these are very helpful to some, not perfect for all; good discussion starters, not 'the final word.'

Lust

"The War Within: An Anatomy of Lust" Leadership Magazine, Fall, 1982.

www.ldolphin.org/lust.html. (*Shocking to some, but maybe all the more helpful since written for pastors, who, as scandals indicate, are human too!*)

Every Man's Battle, Steve Arterburn and Fred Stoeker. 2000

Every Woman's Battle, Shannon Ethridge, 2003.

Also, for parents to read, and to share with teens and young adults:

Every Young Man's Battle, and Every Young Woman's Battle

Marriage, General

The 5 Love Languages, Gary Chapman, www.5lovelanguages.com

1. *Words of Affirmation*; 2. *Quality Time*; 3. *Receiving Gifts*; 4. *Acts of service*; 5. *Physical Touch*.

Intimate Issues: Conversations Woman to Woman. Linda Dillow & Lorraine Pintus, 1999

Fireproof Your Marriage (DVD)

Positive Responses

Thought Conditioners (40 Powerful Spiritual Verses in the Bible), Norman Vincent Peale (Google).

From YOUTH DIRECTOR, Jeff Smith . . . for Parents

www.covenanteyes.com – software that provides accountability to peers, or parents that may be downloaded for a monthly fee

www.pornharms.com – research on the dangers of pornography

www.safefamilies.org – covers everything – safety, software, counseling, etc. . .

Hurt – a book on parenting by Chap Clark – peers, school, sex, etc.

Cell Phones: Do you have a family data plan? Remember that students with mobile web browsers can access pornography 24/7.

A. Gluttony

1. Both Over-eating and Under-eating . . . all eating disorders

Obesity, AND

Anorexia and bulimia nervosa

2. The Modern Obsession with Weight:

Beauty defined by whom? Universally true, or culturally defined?
e.g., Africa and Jessica Simpson!

Increased by magazines, TV – visual images of 'perfect' women
"I hate my body, I feel so fat, maybe nobody will ever want me"

B. Sexual Lust

1 Definition: (general) craving, coveting, hungering

(specific) intense, unbridled, or illicit sexual desire (Am. Heritage Dict.)

2. Consequences.

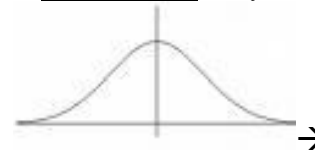
i. (Lust and pornography) lead to minimizing of communication, expressions of affection and emotion, concerns about consequences of sexual activity (J. Sex Research 30, 1993, p.162)

ii. 'is not interested in its partners, but only in the gratification of its own craving; not in the satisfaction of our whole natures, but only in the appeasement of an appetite that we are unable to subdue . . . Love is involvement as well as continuance. But lust will not get involved. Lust is a substitute for involvement with another person. Lust condemns us to solitariness. Henry Fairlie, The Seven Deadly Sins, 175ff.

iii. Decreases attraction to family and child-rearing, and to hope of monogamy and trust.

iv. Increases belief that everyone is involved, abstinence is unhealthy, marriage is confining, promiscuity is natural (J. Adolescent Health, 27:2, supp1. Aug 2000)

3. Interest Level. Why is this subject of so much (or not of any) interest to me?



Sexual Drive in Overall Population

4. Primary Stimulant . . .

(like much that is exhilarating, and many addictions – partly a craving for dopamine!)

Visual Images – more for Men (Immediate . . . think Microwave!)

Relationships – more for Women (Slower . . . think Crockpot!)

5. World We Live in:

a. Loss of Relationship and Intimacy (e.g., Bowling Alone . . .)

- i. Who can we share with, without being condemned or criticized?
- ii. The love of TV Soaps and Romances

b. Dramatic Increase in Visual Images in past 100 years

. . . all signaled the rise of pornography . . .

i. Public Images:

Movies -- begin c.1900. 'Talkies' = 1920's

1st nudity in 'non-stag flick' movie: 1960)

TV changing standards . . Cable; Networks (e.g., Victoria's Secret)

ii. Private Images:

Print (Playboy, 1953); Newspaper Sunday Ads;

SI Swimsuit (begins 1964; 1978 controversial

increases monthly distribution by 50%; \$35 of advertizing).

TV, and home recording (VCR 1976/77)

c. Pornography, Cybersex, Texting/Sexting

<http://www.blazinggrace.org/cms/bg/pornstats>

- \$13b/yr industry in 2006; larger than NFL, NBA and MLB combined
- Hotel Room pornography – purchased by 50% of guests
- 100,000 child pornography web-sites world-wide
- 1 of 3 visitors to all adult web-sites are women
- Average male visitor: age 41; income \$60,000.
- #1 search on the web: sex; #4 = pornography/porno
- 87% college students being explicitly sexual via webcams
- 39% teens are sending/posting sexually explicit messages/images
- 51% males and 32% females at college first viewed porn. at age <12.
- 55% teens have visited a sexually explicit website. First exposure is often while researching a school project. J. of Adolescent Health, Aug.2009.

WHAT TO DO?

1. a. Share! . . . Have the courage to not be controlled by shame or guilt
b. Listen! . . . Have the strength to listen without condemning or feeling revulsion. Seek to understand
2. Make a covenant with your eyes (Job 3:1)
3. Pray/Fight. Know the dangers of aloneness, weariness, (Gen.2:18)
Get up when knocked down (James 5:16)
4. Know that Christ died for us not because we used to be sinners, but because we will always be sinners . . . the struggle may not end until death.

Scriptures

Blessing of Sexuality

Genesis 2:24 Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and *they become one flesh.*

Song of Solomon 8:3,4 O that his left hand were under my head, and that his right hand embraced me! I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, *do not stir up or awaken love until it is ready! (Read the rest of the Book!)*

1 Corinthians 7:3 The husband should give to the wife her conjugal rights, and, likewise, the wife to her husband.

Comfort

1 Corinthians 10:13 *No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone.* God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but . . . will also provide the way out . . . to be able to endure it.

Zechariah 4:6 Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord.

Danger and Action

Matthew 5:27-29 Jesus said: I say to you, that everyone *who looks at a woman with lust* has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, *tear it out* and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell."

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 Shun (*flee*) fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself Do you not know that *your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit* who is in you? You are not your own, you were bought with a price, therefore *glorify God with your body.*

Job 3:1,7-8 "I have made *a covenant with my eyes*; how then could I look upon a virgin? if my step has turned aside from the way, and my heart has followed my eyes . . . then let me sow, and another eat

James 5:16 Therefore *confess your sins to one another*, and pray for one another, (to) . . . be healed. The prayer of the righteous (*those who seek right*) is powerful and effective. [Genesis 2:18 It is not good that man should be alone.]

Colossians 3:5-6 *Put to death*, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, inappropriate passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient.

Philippians 4:6-8 in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God . . . will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. . . whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, *think about these things.* . .

Lifelong Ongoing Wrestling

Romans 7:21-25 I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!