

MAINTAINING MORAL PURITY

Building My Life on Values That Last Rick Warren

"<u>God wants you to be holy and pure</u> and to keep clear of all sexual sin . . . For God has not called us to be dirty-minded and full of lust but to be holy and clean." 1 Thessalonians 4:3, 7 (TLB)

HOW TO STAY PURE IN A POLLUTED WORLD

1. MAKE _____

"How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word." Proverbs 119:9 (ESV)

2. MANAGE

"Be careful what you think, because your thoughts run your life."

Proverbs 4:23 (NCV)

"Keep your mind on what is right." Proverbs 23:19 (NCV)

How Immorality Happens:

Thoughts . . . Emotions . . . Actions

- 1st Accepting sinful thoughts in my mind
- 2nd Emotional, non-physical involvement
- 3rd Physical involvement
- 4th Rationalizing my actions

"<u>Turn your back</u> on the turbulent desires of youth and <u>give your positive attention</u> to goodness, faith, love and peace." 2 Timothy 2:22 (PHILLIPS)

3. MONITOR

"The fool feeds on trash." Proverbs 15:14 (NLT)

"Keep me from paying attention to what is worthless." Psalm 119:37 (GNT)

"I will refuse to look at anything vile and vulgar." Psalm 101:3 (NLT)

4. MINIMIZE

"Be careful. If you are thinking, 'Oh, I would never behave like that'—let this be a warning to you. For you too may fall into sin." 1 Corinthians 10:12 (TLB)

"Bad companions ruin good character." 1 Corinthians 15:33 (GNT)

"But among you there must <u>not even be a hint</u> of sexual immorality."

Ephesians 5:3 (NIV)

5. MAINTAIN

"Enjoy life with your wife, whom you love." Ecclesiastes 9:9 (NIV)

"The husband should fulfill his wife's sexual needs, and the wife should fulfill her husband's needs . . . Do not deprive each other of sexual relations . . . so that Satan won't be able to tempt you." 1 Corinthians 7:3, 5 (NLT)

6. MAGNIFY

"Anyone who commits adultery doesn't have any sense. He is just destroying himself." Proverbs 6:32 (GNT)

"Adultery may cost you your life." Proverbs 6:26 (NCV)

"God will judge the sexually immoral." Hebrews 13:4 (ESV)

THE PATH BACK TO PURITY

- **1. REPENT** Psalm 51:1-10
- 2. RECEIVE FORGIVENESS Psalm 32:1-5
- 3. REFOCUS & REPLACE Romans 13:13-14
- 4. REQUEST HELP DAILY 1 Corinthians 10:13

"The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful . . . When you are tempted, <u>he will show you a way out</u> so that you can endure." 1 Corinthians 10:13 (NLT)

Next Steps

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