

EPHESIANS 5:1,3,5

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children...sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints...For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.



Mountain View
Church of Christ

2026 Theme

WALK WORTHY

Avoiding
Sexual Immorality

1ST THESSALONIANS 4:2-6

For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you **abstain from sexual immorality**; that each one of you know how to **control his own body** in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one **transgress and wrong his brother** in this matter, because the **Lord is an avenger in all these things**, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you.



Attraction

Marriage

Family

Commitment

Hebrews 13:4

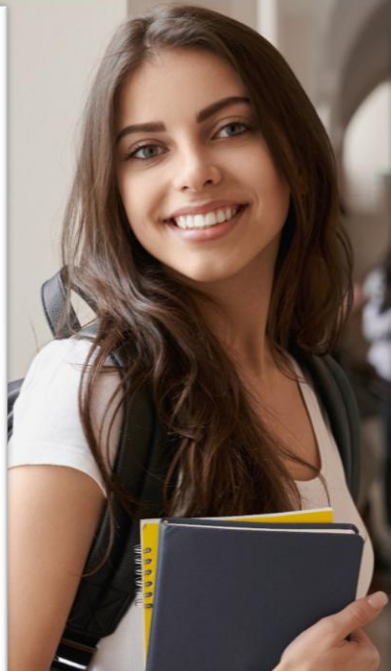
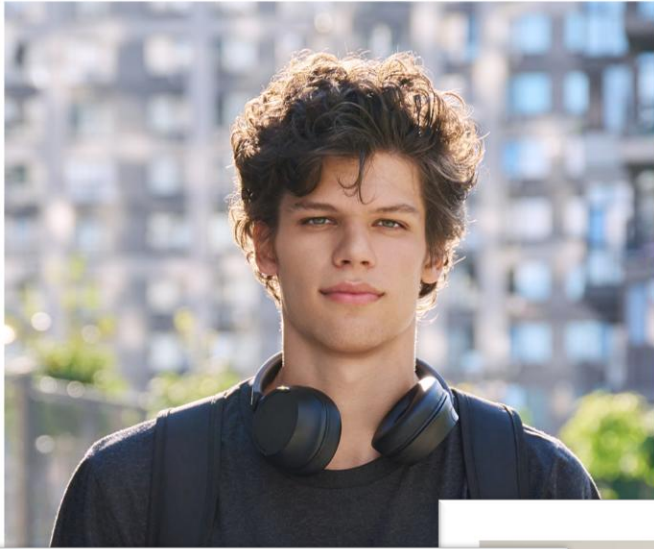
Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.



IMMORALITY

Deviation from the sexual standard of a man and a woman in marriage.

- **Fornication**
- **Adultery**
- **Homosexuality**
- **Polygamy**
- **Pornography**
- **Lust**



Attraction

Divorce

Broken Family

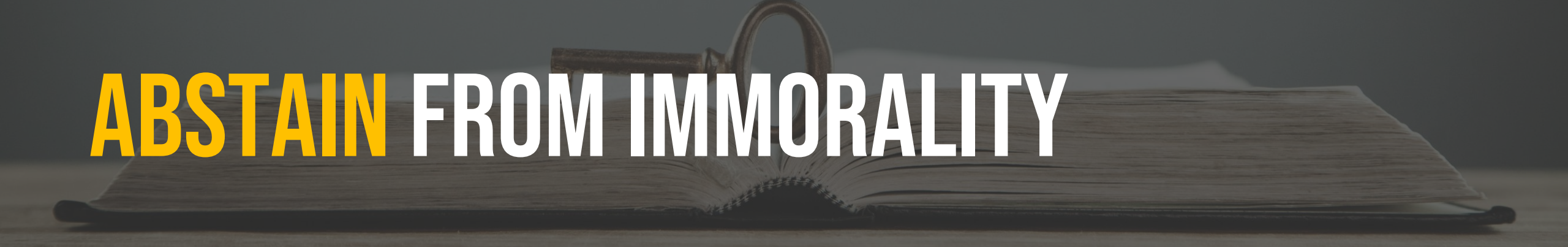
No Commitment



National Center for Health Statistics

Over the last 60 years, Americans have delayed marriage, increasingly chosen cohabitation, and married at substantially lower rates than previous generations.

**HOW DO YOU
THINK THIS
AFFECTS THE
PREVALENCE OF
SEXUAL
IMMORALITY?**



ABSTAIN FROM IMMORALITY

Proverbs 6:27

Can a man take
fire in his
bosom And his
clothes not be
burned?

- Danger starts when we get too close to trouble (**Prov. 7:8-9**)
- We think we are strong enough to resist, but that is foolish
- Beauty, scent, seduction and opportunity takes fools (**Prov. 7:17**)
- **What are reasonable steps we can take to avoid this temptation?**

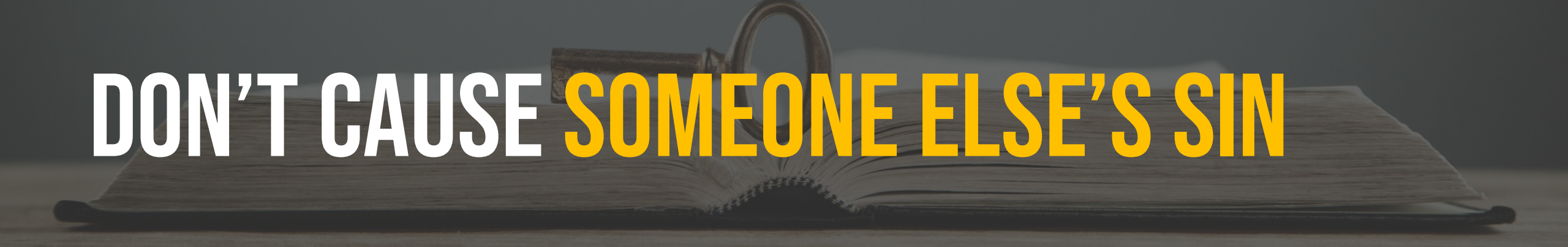


LEARN TO CONTROL YOUR OWN BODY

1st Corinthians 9:27

But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

- The difference between mature and immature people is self-control
- *Self-Discipline* comes from the maturity to see long-term consequences
- The consequences of immorality are many – emotional, financial, spiritual
- One night's mistake can lead to a lifetime of disaster (**Prov. 5:10-12**)



DON'T CAUSE SOMEONE ELSE'S SIN

Matthew 18:6

“...but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.”

- If you think sin is *bad*, it is *worse* for you to cause someone else to stumble
- Someone else may be trying to be good, to have self control, and you are the cause of their sin!
- We can defraud people in a number of ways
- **We are coveting what is not ours**



GOD WILL PUNISH THIS EVIL

Jude 7

“...just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.”

- Deviation from God’s standard has historically brought punishment
- There are plenty of problems it brings – jealousy, disease, murder
- The most significant thing is the loss of our soul and salvation
- **Ephesians 5:5** – *“For you may be sure of this...”*



LEARN THE PATH OF CONTENTMENT

Proverbs 5:15-16

Drink water from
your own cistern,
flowing water from
your own well.
Should your springs
be scattered abroad,
streams of water in
the streets?

- God designed these relationships for us to enjoy – guilt free!
- True enjoyment is found in the fulfillment that God designed
- Get married, stay married, and invest in that relationship so it grows



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