

NewSpring Church Groups Guide

5 Lies of the Devil — Lie #5 — It's Just Sex

God designed sex. When sex happens outside of God's plan, sex is destructive. Satan wants to destroy us and he'll use sex to do it. He wants us to believe that sex is no big deal, that sex inside of marriage is boring, and that there will be no consequences for our illicit behavior. Many know from personal experience how devastating sexual sin can be and we struggle to accept the forgiveness offered by Christ. As we begin today, let's be honest about where we are in our struggles with sexual temptation and sin. Through Christ we can find hope, forgiveness, healing from past sin and restoration in our marriage if we are willing to shed light in the dark places of our heart.

- Why do you think our culture has such a hard time recognizing that sex was meant for a man and woman in the bonds of marriage?
- How does purposelessness and boredom open you up to sexual temptation?
- What excuses do men use to justify their viewing of porn?
- Read Ephesians 5:3. Define "hint." What steps have you taken to be above reproach in this area of your life? Why is it important to have accountability software on your computer? (www.covenanteyes.com)
- What are the consequences of not being sexually pure? Have you experienced any of those consequences? How has God healed you of your past?
- Read Proverbs 5. What does it mean to rejoice in the wife of your youth? How does a married couple stay captivated by love?

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 says, "Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, who you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body."

It is God's will that we learn to control our own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like people who do not know God. Let's strive to live a life worthy of the calling of Jesus Christ by keeping ourselves pure, rejoicing in the wife of our youth, and glorifying God through our godly behavior.

Prayer: Help us to be honest with you about our sexual sin. Help us to be honest with our spouse. I pray that you would give us courage to shed light on the dark places in our heart. Forgive us where we have failed you. Heal us of the brokenness that has been a consequence of our sin. Give us hope and show us the joy found in a life of sexual purity. Amen.

Challenge married couples to confess sexual sin to their spouse. If you have a singles group, challenge your members to confess to someone of the same gender in the group. Challenge your group to form an accountability relationship with someone of the same gender in the group. Challenge men to get accountability software for their computer.