

**Holy Sex**  
*Sexual Purity in a World Gone Mad*  
**4 - What Can We Do to Get Out?**  
*The Desperate Need for a Wake-Up Call*  
**I Corinthians 6:11-22**  
*Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney*

**I. Attack the Root and Not Just the Fruit of Your Sexual Sin**

All sin – including sexual sin – has a ROOT. Go after the root!

**A. Selfishness**

When you're caught up in the sin of selfishness you stop thinking about anybody else around you. It's all about what pleases you.

- Where are you serving?
- How often do you look for ways to serve and sacrifice for others?

**Philippians 2:3-4** "Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others."

**James 3:16** "For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing will be there."

There's a tsunami of confusion and sexual sin that's just swirling around what looks like this little benign sin we call 'selfishness.'

"Dealing with sexual sins is like dealing with bed sores for the person who's suffering with leukemia. You can treat the bedsores with the latest ointments and creams. You can put the best bandages on them every day. But until you cure the leukemia, the person will stay bedridden and will suffer with bedsores. Bedsores come from lying in bed and the only sure way to get rid of them is to get the person out of bed. In this same way, sexual sin is a by-product of a self-centered existence. You are addicted to this sexual sin because you are self-centered. You can treat the sexual sin for the rest of your life but until the self-centered nature is dealt with the problem will persist." *At the Altar of Sexual Idolatry by Steve Gallagher.*

"Practical, everyday 'me-ism,' where the world is reduced to the small confines of your comfort, your pleasure, your control, your happiness, and your ease never works... You see, it's simply not about you, and when you make it about you nothing good results. God-forgetting self-sovereignty is dangerous to you and destructive to your heart and will cause you to use things in a way they were not intended to be used... 'me-ism' never results in long-term peace, rest, satisfaction, and joy." *Sex & Money, Paul David Tripp, p 29*

**B. Ungratefulness**

The person caught in sexual sin is almost always focused on what they DON'T have.

**Romans 1:21** "Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened."

Gratefulness is one of the best repellents to sin in your life.

An ungrateful person has a much greater risk of becoming a moral pragmatist who justifies their ungodly behavior because of disappointing or difficult circumstances!

“Unremitting struggle tends to blur our lines of moral distinctions. Things that are clearly wrong become less offensive to our conscience when they provide our only hope for relief. Again, notice the central problem: It is neither the hurt in our soul (it’s okay to hurt) nor our desire for relief and satisfaction (it’s okay to thirst); it is the *demand*. When we demand relief of our thirst now, we’re in danger of slipping from a biblical ethic into a morality of pragmatism: whatever eases our pain is justified. The result is often blatant moral compromise and a ruined life.” Larry Crabb, *Inside Out*, p. 142-143

When you make getting relief from the pain or disappointment of your life your #1 goal, your next decision is almost always a bad one!

### C. Cold-Heartedness towards God

You’re never in a white-hot, worshipful relationship with your God and Savior AND up to your eyeballs in sexual sin at the same time. Sin is what we do when we’re NOT satisfied in God!

**Jeremiah 2:13** “For My people have committed two great sins: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, and have dug for themselves cisterns – broken cisterns that cannot hold water.”

The sexual sin you’re chasing after doesn’t just make a statement about your fleshly desires, it’s also a statement about your relationship with God... which has gone VERY cold!

You see, it's all vertical. The madness [of sexual sin] isn't first horizontal, so it won't be fixed horizontally. This insanity is vertical. It's only when God is in his rightful place as the unchallenged Master of our hearts that everything else in our lives will be in their appropriate place as well. When something else replaces Him, insanity and chaos of some kind always result.” *Sex & Money*, Paul David Tripp, pp 24-25

## II. Be Ruthless and Radical in Dealing with Your Sexual Sin

**Matthew 5:29-30** "If your right eye causes you to sin pluck it out... if your right hand causes you to sin you cut it off"

In many ways this is a statement from Jesus about the seriousness of our condition. Sexual sin is a high-level threat to your soul! Take it seriously. Don’t play around. Do whatever it takes to cut this sin out of your life.

“Delay is disobedience in a tuxedo. Delay gives you room to rebel against the authority of God while telling yourself that you have every intention to obey, and in so doing you've eased your conscience when it actually needs to be troubled.” *Sex & Money*, Paul David Tripp, p 120

**Ephesians 4:19** (NIV) “They have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.”

The only thing that’s can break the chain is the power of Jesus Christ!