

A G-RATED LIFE IN AN R-RATED WORLD

May 20, 2012 Ephesians 5:3-7 by Bob Branch
Discovering Our Inheritance in Christ, Part 17

MAIN IDEA: God's perspective on Sex and what to do about it!

"Only let us live up to what we have already attained."
Philippians 3:16

"True Christianity is "a fight."... The child of God has two great marks about him. He may be known by *his inward warfare*, as well as by *his inward peace*." --J.C. Ryle

³ But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. **Ephesians 5:3**

1. Say "NO" to sex OUTSIDE GOD'S BOUNDARIES.

Avoid Sexual immorality, any sex outside marriage.

Avoid Impurity, mental side of sex

Avoid Greed, insatiability

Avoid Idolatry (v. 5) puts sexuality in first place.

People are slaves to whatever has mastered them.
2 Peter 2:19

"I am the LORD your God,...You shall have no other gods before me." **Exodus 20:2-3**

Flee from sexual immorality. **1 Corinthians 6:18**

⁴ Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. **Ephesians 5:4**

Zip-It on Obscenity, filthiness, dirty talk.

Zip-It on Foolish talk, *moronic*, empty, wasteful

Zip-It on Coarse joking, crude jesting. sarcasm? sexual jokes

2. Check your WORDS, check your HEART.

What you say flows from what is in your heart. **Luke 6:45** NLT

For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly.
Mark 7:21-22

3. Replace with GIVING THANKS.

...give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." **1 Thessalonians 5:18**

PAUSE 1: God made sex! Sex is good. Sex is very good!

PAUSE 2: God made laughter. It is good. Very good!

A cheerful heart is good medicine. **Proverbs 17:22**

⁵ For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. ⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. ⁷ Therefore do not be partners with them. **Ephesians 5:5-7**

The **Motivators**...

A. No inheritance, cut off from God's kingdom. (1 Cor. 15:23-28)

B. God's wrath (consequences) in this present timeframe.

Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. **1 Cor. 6:9-10**

4. FEAR the Lord, take sin seriously, & create SEPARATION.
(4:17)