

WORSHIP

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

No Other Name, Amazing God, Make Me Glad, As the Deer, Jesus

WELCOME

Purity Vow. Whether you are married or single, what is your commitment to remain pure?

WORD

1 CORINTHIANS 6:18–20

¹⁸*Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.* ¹⁹*Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?*

²⁰*For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.*

We are not to tinker or play around immorality. Immorality refers to any sexual act or promiscuity outside the context of marriage as defined in the Bible—the union of one man and one woman for life. It means selling off, surrendering or compromising *one's* sexual purity. It is also idolatry of self, i.e. “*I want to do what feels good.*”

According to the Bible, the one way to stop immorality is to flee from it. To do so is not a suggestion or merely an option but an active command. More so, it is not something that can be done for us. We need to take personal responsibility for it in obedience to God (**1 Corinthians 6:18–20**).

Here are examples of what it looks like to flee from immorality and not engaging in it:

JOSEPH & POTIPHAR'S WIFE (GENESIS 39)

The Lord was with Joseph and all that he does prosper (vv.3-4). He was later on put in charge over all that Potiphar, his master, owned. Joseph was not only a man of character, leadership skills and success, but he was also handsome and strong. So, Potiphar's wife looked at him with desire and seduced him every day to lie with her. But Joseph refused Mrs. Potiphar's advances. He did not listen to her and avoided being alone with her; and when she finally became aggressive, Joseph quickly ran away.

Joseph had the right perspective. He did not give in to the seduction of Mrs. Potiphar, not just because he thought of his reputation, not even because it was a sin against his master, but ultimately because he did not want to sin against God. Instead of compromising and rationalizing immorality, Joseph ran away from it.

As a result of his refusal, Potiphar's wife framed him and he ended-up in jail. But even when he was in jail, the Lord

blessed him. The chief jailer put him in charge of the prisoners because he saw that the Lord was with Joseph (**vv.22–23**). Joseph's story shows us that ultimately there is blessing in obedience.

DAVID & BATHSHEBA (2 SAMUEL 11:1–5)

Sometimes immorality begins when we are in a place where we should not be.

King David was in the palace when he should have been in the battlefield with his men. He was at the roof top having a leisurely walk when he saw the beautiful Bathsheba bathing. He could have chosen to turn around to avoid the temptation but he inquired about her and asked his men to bring her to him. He laid with her and she conceived a child. The Bible tells us further that David concocted a plan to make sure that Uriah, the husband of Bathsheba and who was also his faithful and able soldier, would be killed in the battlefield.

Choices have consequences. Since then, David continued to encounter so many family-related problems.

WHY FLEE IMMORALITY?

Immorality is a sin against our own body which refers to the whole system of our being - physical body, emotions, mind, soul. Immorality also includes pornography because sexually explicit material casts unforgettable memories in the mind and triggers mirror neurons in the brain.

It is not simple and easy to flee immorality but we should do it. Why?

1. *Immorality is a uniquely devastating sin.*

There is no sin like immorality. The Bible depicts the relationship of Christ to the church as husband to his wife (**2 Corinthians 11:2**). Our spiritual union

WORD (cont'd)

with Christ requires intimacy with Him, like that of marriage (**Ephesians 5:31–32**). God invented sex as a profound experience of intimacy in the context of marriage — so special and sacred. That’s why when it is misused and abused, it brings about devastating results.

2. *Our body is a temple of the Holy Spirit.*

The immoral person sins against his own body which is a temple of the Holy Spirit. A temple is a place regarded with reverence because of who dwells in it. When we constantly walk in the Spirit, the promise of God is, we will not carry out the desires of the flesh (**Galatians 5:16–19**), but we will live with the fruit of the Spirit (**v.22–23**). It is not easy but the Spirit will empower us if we live a Spirit-filled life moment to moment.

3. *We have been bought with a price.*

The principle is, we no longer own ourselves. We have been bought for a price (**1 Corinthians 6:20**). If ever you have thoughts of impurity, then just imagine coming before God and “asking permission” from Him to compromise your purity.

Immorality is a deadly landmine that threatens to ruin people’s lives regardless of age, gender or status in life. It can blow marriage apart; for singles it threatens to cripple the enjoyment of their future married life.

The consistent filling of the Holy Spirit is vital and indispensable to be all God wants us to be and to do all God wants us to do. If our life is Spirit-filled then it should be normal for our Christian life to flee immorality.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

1. **Precious.** What is the command in **1 Corinthians 6: 18–20**? Why are we commanded to flee immorality?
2. **Run Away.** Have you experienced running away or falling into immorality? What did you learn?
3. **Flee to be free.** What do you find to be the best benefit of fleeing immorality? How do you intend to apply in your life the principles learned from the message and discussion today?

WORKS

FLEE IMMORALITY TODAY

Be proactive to flee immorality. Make a practical list of ways to flee immorality to be your tool and guide even before you encounter it. Below is a suggested list. Add some more, based on your own experience and weaknesses.

1. *Flee from any place where sex is available.*
2. *Refuse all sexual advances from anyone.*
3. *Avoid being alone in a car with the opposite sex.*
4. *Avoid dining alone with opposite sex.*
5. *Avoid being in dark places with the opposite sex.*
6. *Avoid counseling the opposite sex.*
7. *Avoid emotionally involved communication (phone, text, email, etc.) with the opposite sex.*
8. *Flee from pornography.*

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Facilities

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends