



We tighten the knot when:

- We make adjustments **together**.

■ Most people don't have **boundaries** that **protect** their marriage.

Purity: The absence of **toxins**.

4 Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. Hebrews 13:4 (NIV)

8 Blessed are those whose thoughts are pure. They will see God. Matthew 5:8 (GWT)

Impurity increases in marriage because:

■ We're acting on our **natural** desires.

5 And that means killing off everything connected with that way of death: sexual promiscuity, impurity, lust, doing whatever you feel like whenever you feel like it, and grabbing whatever attracts your fancy. That's a life shaped by things and feelings instead of by God. Colossians 3:5 (MSG)

- People are getting **married** later in life.

9 ...if you can't control yourselves, go ahead and marry. It is better to marry than to burn with lust. 1 Corinthians 7:9 (TLB)

3 But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity... Ephesians 5:3 (NIV)

8 Keep your distance from such a woman; absolutely stay out of her neighborhood. Proverbs 5:8 (MSG)

Why we shouldn't allow a hint of impurity:

- It creates an **appetite**.
- It undermines the **goal** of marriage.
- It nurtures a **divided** heart.
- Our lives, and our marriage should **reflect** God.

It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God...For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5, 7 (NIV)

■ Our passions need **parameters**.

Flee from sexual immorality... You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 (NIV)

8 Blessed are those whose thoughts are pure. They will see God. Matthew 5:8 (GWT)

How to nurture a pure heart:

■ Ask **God** for a **clean** heart.

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me. Psalm 51:10 (NLT)

■ Commitment to God's **standard**.

9 How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. Psalm 139:9 (NIV)

■ Manage our **thoughts**.

But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. Matthew 5:28 (NIV)

1 I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully on a girl. Job 31:1 (NIV)

3 I will set before my eyes no vile thing. Psalm 101:3 (NIV)

■ Magnify the **consequences**.

But a man who commits adultery lacks judgment; whoever does so destroys himself. Proverbs 6:32 (NIV)

Three responses to impurity:

- **Defensiveness**

- **Remorse**

- **Repentance**

10 Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death. 2 Corinthians 7:10 (NIV)

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)-464-5754

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday?
- Did you do anything to tighten the knot in your marriage this week? Explain.
- Read Hebrews 13:4; what does it mean to honor marriage?
- Why do you think impurity continues to increase in many marriages?
- Why do you think couples don't intentionally nurture purity in their marriages? (Maybe you think they do, if so, how do couples nurture purity?)
- Talk about the points under the sub-heading "Why we shouldn't allow a hint of impurity". How do these bring impurity into our marriage?
- Why do our passions need parameters? How do we establish parameters for our passions?
- Talk through each of the points - "How to nurture a pure heart".
- How do we manage our thoughts? How do we magnify the consequences?
- What would an ideal marriage look like to you? Are you taking steps with your spouse toward that marriage?

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