

#### Today's promise:

- I promise to stay pure.
- It's impossible to build a life that pleases God on a foundation of sin.

#### Some sabotage their marriage because:

- Most people don't have boundaries that protect their marriage.
- Purity matters to God.

...I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until Christ returns. Philippians 1:10 (NLT)

#### 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)

4 Honor marriage, and guard the sacredness of sexual intimacy between wife and husband. God draws a firm line against casual and illicit sex. Hebrews 13:4 (MSG)

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.

Or didn't you realize that your body is a sacred place, the place of the Holy Spirit? Don't you see that you can't live however you please, squandering what God paid such a high price for? The physical part of you is not some piece of property belonging to the spiritual part of you. God owns the whole works. So let people see God in and through your body. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (MSG)

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.

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)

#### The reason we guard against impurity:

- It creates an appetite for more.
- 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)

- Make a 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)



## TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

### Questions for 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? Explain why?
- Do you agree that many people don't have boundaries that protect their marriage?
- Why do you think purity matters to God?
- 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 sub-heading "The reason we guard against impurity". While these are all good and important, 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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OTHER NOTES:

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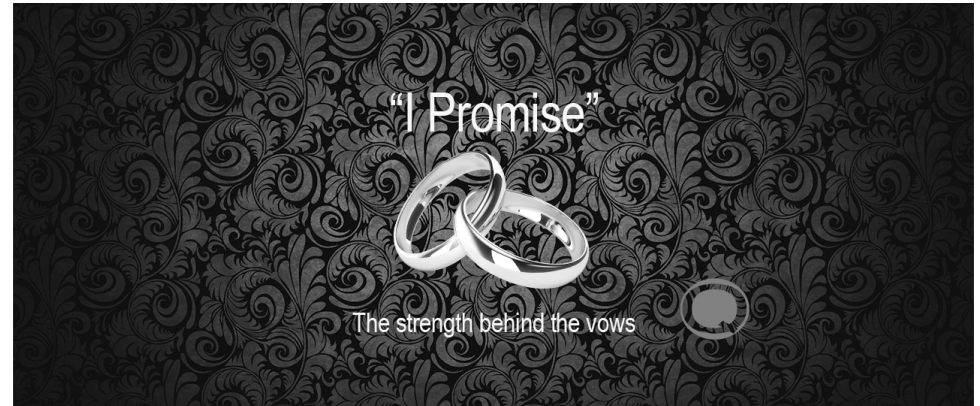
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# WELCOME

## Our Series:



## Today's Talk..

The promise of pursuing purity.

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Get connected! Try out a Connection Group.



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Information available in the courtyard.



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**The Quest Church**  
Doing life together