

What advice does Psalm 119:9-11 give the person who wants to remain pure? Have you found this to be effective personally? How have you hidden God's Word in your heart? Recall a time when God's Word helped you avoid impurity.

Why is purity important in our relationship with God? What does our pursuit of purity demonstrate to him?

Philippians 2:14-16 tells us that the pure "shine like stars" in contrast to their generation. What two practices inhibit purity? How? How could practicing Paul's recommendation in Philippians 4:8 help you grow in the grace of purity?

REFLECT

As you consider the passages above, are you encouraged about your potential for purity? In the pursuit of purity, what part does God take, and what is your responsibility?

RESPOND

Make a list of things that you consider noble, right, pure, lovely, or excellent. Praise God together in prayer for those things. Tell someone you have noticed being noble or right or pure that they "shine like stars" in the universe for Jesus.

OBSERVATIONS ABOUT OUR SOCIETY

We're not just swimming in sexuality, we're drowning in it

Sexuality is like a mighty river. It must be channeled to keep it from becoming a swamp. Whether its pornography or promiscuity...we're living in the swamp.

Sex has been stripped of any moral implications.

1 Corinthians 6:12-13

"I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"—but I will not be mastered by anything. You say, "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both." The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

'Sexual Identity' is up for interpretation.

OBSERVATIONS REGARDING SEX

> Sex is a good gift, given and designed by God.

(see Genesis 2:24-25)

> Sex is not casual, but a powerful force.

(see 1 Corinthians 6:15-17)

How are we to be Christian in this sexually confused culture?

<p>Ephesians 5:3 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 the Lord's people...</p>	<p>Colossians 3:5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.</p>	<p>1 Thessalonians 4:3 It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality...</p>
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PURITY—HONORING GOD'S STANDARDS

Psalm 101:2-3 (NLT)
I will lead a life of integrity in my own home.
I will refuse to look at anything vile and vulgar.

Philip Yancey, in Rumors of Another World
"Saints stand out because they refuse to breathe the air, to accept the lie without protest. They seek to live according to the rules of the invisible world even while living in the visible."

CHASTITY—HONORING OURSELVES

1 Corinthians 6:18-20
Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins people commit are outside their bodies, but those who sin sexually sin against their own bodies. Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

FIDELITY—HONORING OUR SPOUSE & OUR PROMISES

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

MODESTY—HONORING OTHERS

1 Timothy 5:1-2
Treat older women as mothers and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity.

Being an Unconfused Christian

Life Group Study

RELATE

In which of the following areas is impurity most dangerous? Rank from most to least and explain your rationale.

Water	Medicines	Food	Leisure Activities
Thoughts	Air	Speech	Building Materials
Gasoline	Books	Movies	Infant Formula

Share an image that describes purity to you. What does that say about the essence of purity?

What principle, insight or idea was meaningful to you from this week's sermon?

READ

Leviticus 11:45	Psalm 24:3-6	Psalm 119:9-11
Proverbs 15:26	Romans 6:12-14	Philippians 2:14-16
Philippians 4:8	1 John 3:1-3.	

Write down your best definition of purity. If you are doing this study in a group, share your definitions with each other. Compare your definitions with a dictionary or Bible dictionary.

In Leviticus 11:45, God commands that his people be holy. According to this verse, why should we want to be holy? How motivating is that to you?

Psalm 24:1-6 says that only the pure may come near God. What two things will a pure person who seeks God not do, according to this passage? Have you ever given something up because it got in the way of your relationship with God? What happened?