

DO WE REALLY HAVE THE RIGHT TO DO WHATEVER WE WANT WITH OUR BODY?

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

A Parent's Guide To The Birds & The Bees

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*(Sex, Sushi, and Salvation: Thoughts on
Intimacy, Community, & Eternity,
Moody Publishers)*

- “Since humans are made in the image of God, we have three basic passions – intimacy, community, and eternity. We burn for them, save for them, pay for them, and pray for them. But only the God who fulfills these desires within Himself can perfectly fulfill them in us.”

I. God Determines Morality

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- ⁹ Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,¹⁰ nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

II. God Delivers Us From Immorality

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- **11** And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

III. God Guides Us With Principles

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

1. The Principle Of Spiritual Benefit

What I Want May Be Legal, But Not Beneficial For My Spiritual Life

12a “All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful.

2. The Principle Of Enslaving Addiction

**What I Want May Be Legal,
But May Become An
Addiction That Controls
My Life**

*12b “All things are lawful for
me,” but I will not be
dominated by anything.*

3. The Principle Of Temporary Desires

**Our Temporal Needs Are
Lesser Than Our Eternal
Purpose Of A Godward
Life**

*13a “Food is meant for the
stomach and the stomach for
food”—and God will destroy
both one and the other.*

4. The Principle Of A Sanctified Life

Our Body Belongs To The Lord, Not To Ourselves

13b The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power.

God created sex for a purpose:

To Be
Enjoyed With
Our Spouse
(Prov 5:18-19; SS
4:5,10; 7:1-9)

To Enhance
An Intimate
Relationship
(SS 5:16)

To Express
An
Emotional
Relationship
(Gen 26:8)

To Procreate
Life
(Gen 1:28)

5. The Principle Of One Body

**What We Do
With Our
Physical Body
Affects The
Greater
Spiritual Body
Of Christ**

15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! 16 Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two will become one flesh." 17 But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.

Lauren Winner, (*Real Sex*, Ch. 7)

- “Sex is, in Paul’s image, a joining of your body to someone else’s. In baptism, you have become Christ’s Body, and it is Christ’s Body that must give you permission to join His Body to another body. In the Christian grammar, we have no *right* to sex. The place where the church confers that privilege on you is the wedding; weddings grant us license to have sex with one person. Chastity, in other words, is a fact of gospel life. In the New Testament, sex beyond the boundaries of marriage—the boundaries of communally granted sanction of sex—is simply off limits. To have sex outside those bounds is to commit an offense against the Body. Abstinence before marriage, and fidelity within marriage; any other kind of sex is embodied apostasy.”

6. The Principle Of Sexual Immorality

Sex Within Marriage Is Holy, Outside Of Marriage It's Immoral

18 Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

Scriptures On Sexual Immorality

Acts 15:20 Abstain from things polluted by idols, from sexual immorality

Romans 13:13 Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.

Scriptures On Sexual Immorality

1 Corinthians 5:9 I wrote to you in my epistle not to keep company with sexually immoral people.

1 Corinthians 10:8 Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell;

Scriptures On Sexual Immorality

- **Ephesians 4:17-20** ¹⁷This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, ¹⁸having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; ¹⁹who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. ²⁰But you have not so learned Christ

Scriptures On Sexual Immorality

- **Ephesians 5:3** But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints;
- **Colossians 3:5** Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

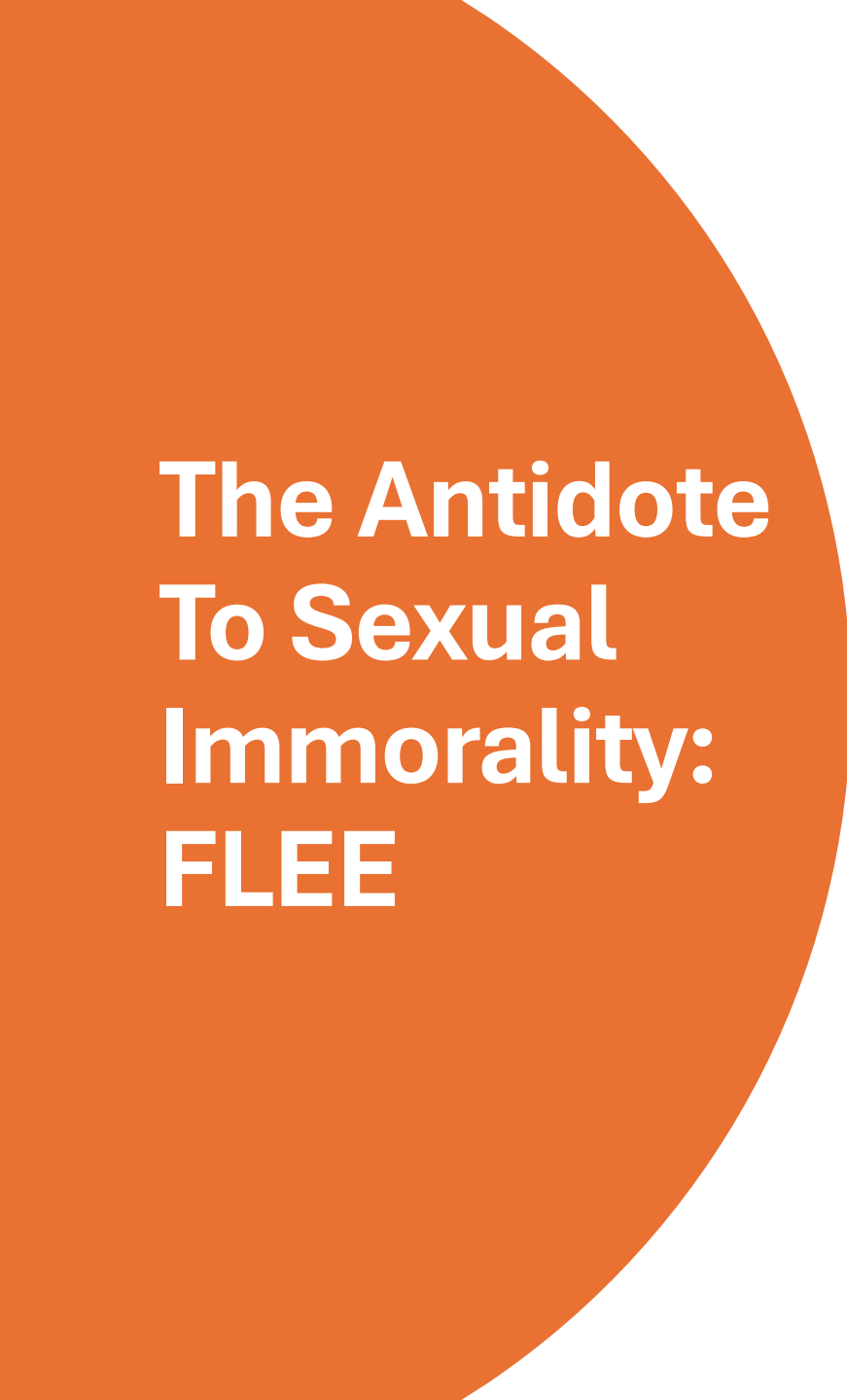
Scriptures On Sexual Immorality

1 Thessalonians 4:3-7 3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, 5 not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. 7 For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness.


Extra-Marital Sex Rejects:

- **God's Will** (1 Thess 4:3)
- **God's Possession** (4:4)
- **God's Standard** (4:5)
- **God's People** (4:6)
- **God's Call** (4:7)



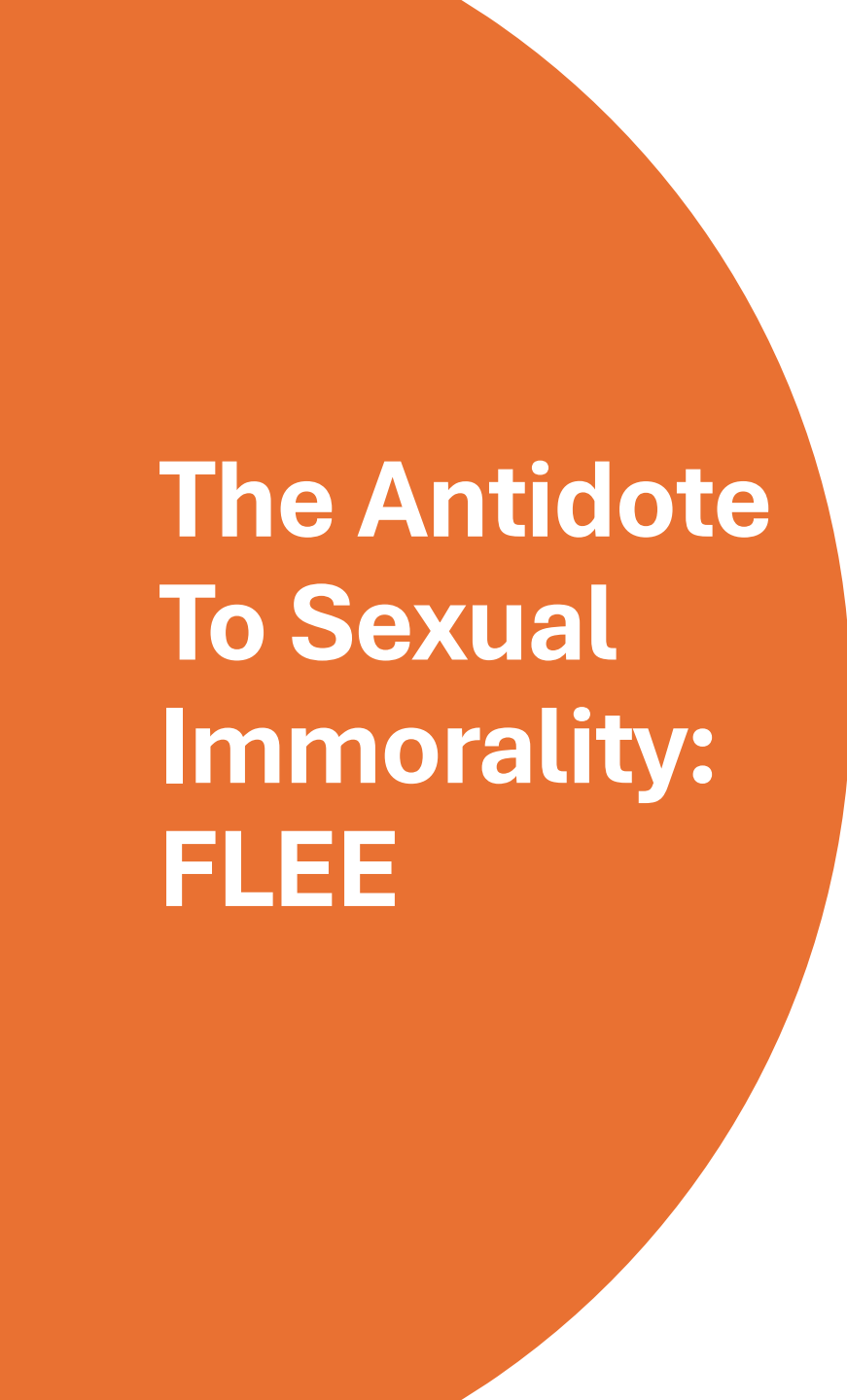
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The Antidote To Sexual Immorality: **FLEE**

- **2 Timothy 2:22 Flee** also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.
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The Antidote To Sexual Immorality: FLEE

- **Genesis 39:12-13** 12 that she caught him by his garment, saying, “Lie with me.” But he **left** his garment in her hand, and **fled** and **ran outside**. 13 And so it was, when she saw that he had **left** his garment in her hand and fled outside,

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The Antidote To Sexual Immorality: FLEE

- **Proverbs 22:3** A prudent man foresees evil and **hides himself**, But the simple pass on and are punished.



7. The Principle Of Divine Ownership

**Our Body Is Bought For,
Owned By And Occupied
By God**

19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Conclusion

Our sin, including sexual sin, is why we don't deserve heaven.

Our Savior saved and delivered us from all our sin.

At the cross, Jesus not only paid for our salvation, but redeemed our body so we belong to Him.