



PK WISE CHOICES

THE INSIDE RUNNING

Promise Keepers holds to the biblical view that the only context for sex is within marriage. Most men whether married or not, face regular decisions fuelled by their sexuality. Those choices go to the centre of our integrity.

Many men are doing a great job of successfully managing their sexuality. We applaud them and appreciate the example they are setting. Acts 15 tells us that we need to deal with sexual immorality in order to do well.

Some men are confronting a number of problems. We live in a sexualised world and access to pornography is easier than ever. Craig Gross makes an interesting comment that he has never seen a man break free from porn on his own. Even if there are men that have succeeded on their own, it is a lot easier to find freedom from porn with the help of men you can confide in and trust. The Men's Small Group is the ideal place for that trust to grow.

Sex is often a barometer of how well the marriage is going. It is logical to build a strong marriage that can weather tough times, sickness and ageing. A lack of investment in the early years could lead to a poor return later on.

John Subritzky




HEALTHY SEXUALITY

By Dr Allan Meyer

In God's thinking, sex is intended to be the glue that sticks a man and a woman together for life. If it is not functioning like glue, it can become like dynamite that blows a couple apart. If this dynamic, this distinctive difference between the male and female sex drive is not disciplined well it can mean that a marriage is destroyed and it did not have to be.

The tension created by male/female hormonal differences demands discipleship. Whose responsibility is that discipleship? Sir, it is your responsibility. The Bible says that a husband is the head over the wife. Did you think that means you get to have sex whenever you want? Did you think that means you get to hold the remote control and make all the decisions? You are the head of your wife like Christ is the head of the Church. That just means that you get to die first. The head is the one where life begins. It is your responsibility to die first so that that woman is not traumatized or wounded by your sex drive which is not identical to hers. Male sexuality is not the norm; it is simply the other side of the coin.

Men need help, particularly young men, as they enter into those years where that testosterone fog can make them wonder if they are going to go insane. Sometimes when you have to learn to control

your own body, you can teach yourself. And when it comes to the issue of sexual discipleship, there will be some men who can do a pretty good job of reading their Bible,

wrestling with their own character and the influence of society. Others will perish in the attempt because they have no idea what skills they need to handle their own sexual passions well. The issue of our sexuality is one of the most significant dynamics at work within us that directs the decisions that we make in life. For a man, every waking moment, his sex drive is being used to get at him and to seek to influence his decision making in life.

"For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things: that you abstain from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well." Acts 15: 28-29

If you will clean up your sex life you will do well and everyone no matter what generation we live in, needs to face that reality. If we don't deal with *pornea*, if we do not deal with sexual immorality in our lives as followers of Jesus, we will not do well. It is an issue of the first order.

I want to encourage you to take the issue of sexual purity much more seriously than perhaps the church has done in recent years. The outcome is so profound that on this issue we cannot afford to get this wrong.

Adapted from "Valiant Man"

Confronting Porn

If you're struggling with pornography you are not alone. A lot of you think you are the only one going through this and let me tell you, you're not. 47% of Christian families admit that pornography is a problem in their household. This affects the best of us.

We don't talk about it at church. We don't do a series of messages at church because it's uncomfortable. You hope by avoiding it, it will just go away, but I believe the opposite. The church needs to speak out on this. The church should speak about this issue and get their people to help.

This isn't just about getting free of porn. This is about understanding that God has something better for us. God has a more abundant life for us and if we can get rid of the sin in our lives, we can start to experience something better.

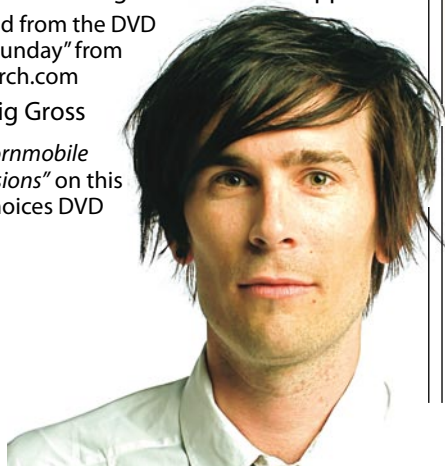
If you confess your sin, you'll prosper. Find somebody that you can confide in and say "I need help". I have not met one person that has gotten over an addiction to pornography on their own. It's not going to happen. I don't care if you have stopped smoking on your own, if you've lost weight, saved your marriage, gotten out of bankruptcy – you will not get over an addiction to pornography by yourself. It's not going to happen. Confess it to God and confess it to somebody else.

You need someone to confide in. It's a lot easier to talk about this now than it will be if you get caught. It's a tough conversation but it's something that needs to happen.

Adapted from the DVD "Porn Sunday" from xxxchurch.com

By Craig Gross

See "Pornmobile Confessions" on this WiseChoices DVD



What's on the DVD



Featured Speaker

A dynamic message from Pastor Martin Steel about dealing with our sexuality in a healthy way. Martin is Senior Pastor of Harbourside Church in Auckland. He oversees a large and growing congregation with a vigorous Men's Ministry.

Panel: Avoiding the Landmines

Men discuss how every man can live successfully with his sexuality. What does this mean for Christian men?

Bonus Features

- Church for Men** - Edited segment from David Murrow's message at Auckland 08. How to do church in a way that men can relate to.
- Pornmobile Confessions** - Kevin gives a short testimony about his struggle with porn and unhealthy sex and how he was freed from it.
- Promise Keepers music**
- Red Torment** - The story of how Olleen Hansen was set free from mental torment. From our supporter, Dove Ministries.

Resources and Promos

- Winning at Work & Home** - One of three DVD series from Robert Lewis. Recommended for Men's Small Groups
- Forging Tomorrow's Men** promo
- Highlights** from *Leave No Man Behind* Auckland 08

Humour Some clips for your enjoyment

DVD ROM

Weekly Studies

Promise Keepers NZ Study Guides to help Kiwi men grow closer to Christ. Simple format that promotes meaningful discussion.

Books

- How to Survive the Economic Meltdown** by Pat Morley (Man in the Mirror) Topical book from a man who has been through it all before. Align your financial strategies to your Christian walk.
- Overcome Fear** - A straightforward teaching by Bill Subritzky based on scripture and experience. Break the hold fear has over some people's lives.

Articles

Selection of articles relating to sexuality. There are some powerful resources here, including website links.

Photos

Selected hi-res photos from Promise Keepers 2008. Are you in one of them?

MP3 and iPod Videos

Audio and small format video files of some of the featured videos.



FORGING TOMORROW'S MEN

Dunedin 31 July - 1 August | Christchurch 14 - 15 August | Tauranga 28 - 29 August
Wellington 11 - 12 September | Auckland 9 - 10 October

