From This Day Forward

Part 4: Stay Pure

Stay Pure

(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.

(Ephesians 5:3)
But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality...

(1 Thessalonians 4:3-5, 7)
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.

"sexual immorality" in Greek is one word: porneia, meaning ANY sexual activity outside of marriage between one man and one woman

(Proverbs 5:8)
Keep to a path far from her, do not go near the door of her house.

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

Passion isn't the issue. Containment is.

Passions need parameters.

(Galatians 5:24 NLT)
Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to to his cross and crucified them there.

FOUR WAYS TO PUT PARAMETERS AROUND YOUR PURITY

1. Make a commitment to God's standards.

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

2. Manage my mind.

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

(Psalm 101:3)
I will set before my <u>eyes</u> no vile thing.

3. Magnify the consequences.

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

4. Maintain proper relationships.

(Proverbs 13:20)
He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm.

Three Responses to Parameters

1. Defensiveness.

2. Remorse.

3. Repentance.

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