



Sermon Discussion Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Church Sermon Series: Sin Less: Week 5 (August 13, 2023)

This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and groups to use it. When we hear God's Word, we need to do more than listen. The bible says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only" (James 1:22). Step 1: GATHER with your family or group. Step 2: REVIEW and DISCUSS the key points and scriptures from the sermon. Step 3: PRAY for the prayer requests shared by your family or group.

DISCUSSION STARTER

How would you describe your general attitude and appetite for God's word?

DIGGING DEEPER 1

Read Psalm 119:9-11. Using a good Bible Study tool like *Bible Hub (biblehub.com)* or *Blue Letter Bible (blueletterbible.org)*, study through this scripture. Once you have thoroughly studied this passage, answer the following questions: Who is this verse speaking to; only to young men? Why do you think young men are mentioned here specifically? What does it mean to keep one's way pure? How can we keep our ways pure? How do we keep our way according to God's Word? What does it mean to seek the Lord? How do we go about seeking Him with all our heart? What does it mean to wander from His commandments? If we are seeking Him with our whole heart, why do we have to ask Him not to let us wander from His commandments? What does it mean to treasure something? Why should we treasure God's Word in our heart? How does God's Word keep us from sinning? Against Whom do we sin? The best book in the world is the bible. The best place to put it is in the heart. The best reason for putting it there is that it saves us from sinning against God.

DIGGING DEEPER 2

Read 1 Corinthians 7:1-5. Using a good Bible Study tool like *Bible Hub (biblehub.com)* or *Blue Letter Bible (blueletterbible.org)*, study through this scripture. Once you have thoroughly studied this passage, answer the following questions: Does sexual purity take precedence over your marriage? What is our marital duty? What does it mean? What roles does sex play in a marriage? Why is affection so important when it comes to sex with your spouse? What advantages are there in being single? Does it matter whether a Christian decides to marry or stay single? What does the word deprive mean in verse 5? What leads us to a lack of self-control?

DIGGING DEEPER 3

Live Interview. After listening to Derrek and Hannah's responses to Sam's questions, did any of their experiences align to yours? How does God's word and its presence in your life help you make good decisions about purity in your youth and through your adult years? How does the lack of God's word in your life effect your decisions toward staying on God's path of purity (Psalm 119:9)? Porn addiction is everywhere, even within the church. Research reveals 68 million search queries on the internet, or one out of every four searches, are related to porn. But what about Christians? According to Barna Research, 68% of church-going men and more than 50% of pastors regularly view porn. And when it comes to Christians 18-24 years old, 76% actively search for porn. God has redemption for those who are struggling. He knows the battles we're facing that we don't want to share with anyone else. "He has sent redemption to his people. He has ordained his covenant forever. His name is holy and awe-inspiring" Psalm 111:9 (CSB). Porn hurts the person viewing and the person on the other side of the screen. Addictions grow in the dark; if you find yourself tangled in porn addiction, please reach out for help. There is not a sin we can commit that would cause Jesus to regret going to the cross for us.

DOING THE WORD

Sexual sin is extremely destructive. It is playing with fire, and one can't help but to be burned. Our hope is knowing Jesus can deliver us from sexual sin. If we are believers in Christ, we are not in a place of bondage that is impossible to escape. 1 John 1:9 tells us that if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins and will cleanse us of all unrighteousness. I plead with you, if you are caught up in any sexual sin, confess it now. Repent (a change of mind, that leads to a change of heart, that leads to change of direction) and turn back to God. Jesus died for you to be free. Be free today! God has redemption for those who are struggling. He knows the battles we're facing that we don't want to share with anyone else.