

PART 6TER

"If you keep yourself pure, you will be a special utensil for honorable use. Your life will be clean, and you will be ready for the Master to use you for every good work." – 2 Timothy 2:21

Purity is defined as "freedom from adulteration or contamination." We live in purity by seeking a pure heart, because from the abundance of the heart all else flows. If your speech isn't pure, it can be concluded that your heart isn't pure. If your actions aren't pure, it can be concluded that your heart isn't pure.

Picture a glass of water without any contamination—that is purity. Now if the water has bits of mud in it, it's contaminated. You wouldn't consider it pure water anymore, even if the mud is a small amount compared to the water.

In our lives, the question shouldn't be: "how much mud can I contaminate in my life until I'm impure?" The question should be: "How much mud can I avoid to stay as pure as possible?"

This is our call to purity! As we remain founded on Christ, the things that go against our purity become evident. When we don't keep God as our priority, we slip into clouded thoughts and actions.

Today read through Titus 1

PART TIER

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." – 1 Timothy 4:12

This verse is encouraging and challenging young believers to lead the call of purity and conduct despite what older believers are living like.

In society, you see young people setting an unholy example of purity. The most mature and independent thing we can do is to live out our own convictions and set our own example. This requires discipline, and it's the mark of a spiritually mature Christian.

How can you set an example of purity in your school? To some of you, the thought of that is daunting because that means you have to against culture. But those around you won't know what purity looks like until someone models it for them. You can change the topic of conversations, avoid inappropriate language, encourage friends to stay pure in singleness and relationships.

Live life on mission to show who God is to those around you—that invovles acting and speaking with purity in mind!

Today read through Titus 2

PART 8TER

"Remember, it is a sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it." – James 4:17

This verse is referencing the "sins of omission" in our lives. Now that you have a knowledge of wrong and right, you have a responsibility to live according to those convictions.

The principle of sins of omission is a key to purity, because it leads to a life of holiness. You're probably thinking: "we can't be holy because only God is holy." That is true, yet we are still commanded to life a life pursuing holiness.

Purity is essentially a piece of a holy life. And we only walk in purity when we're in close union with the Holy One. As the Spirit lives within us, it becomes easier to avoid an impure life because we're following His guidance and convictions.

According to the verse, if you know that you shouldn't stay out late alone with your boyfriend/girlfriend yet still do so, you've put yourself in a tricky situation by ignoring that conviction. If you know you should leave an inappropriate conversation yet still stay, you've ignored your conviction. Even though you might not be actively doing the "sinful things," you've sinned by ignoring what you know to be the right thing to do.

Today read through Titus 3

PART 9TER

"When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outburst of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, enjoy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these." – Galatians 5:20–21

Each of those sins is a result of an impure heart. The attention of your heart turns into the focus of your thoughts and into the habits of your actions. Dabbling in these sins will only lead to self destruction, so never convince yourself that a little bit of this lifestyle is acceptable.

People often dive into these sins because they hope they'll find satisfaction, happiness and peace, but all they find are things of the devil. Nothing can give what it doesn't have, and only things of God can fulfill.

It's very clear when something is enticing your flesh—tension will immediately rise up between your spirit and flesh. You alone have the choice to choose which you'll listen to, strengthening whichever you pick. The more you feed your flesh, the stronger the appetite for those things will be. The more you feed your spirit, the stronger the appetite for things of God.

Today read through Philemon1

PART TWENTY

"Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body. Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God?"

– 1 Corinthians 6:18

We can't end a discussion on purity without mentioning the elephant in the room: "Run from sexual sin!" The apostle Paul implores us to avoid sins against our own bodies.

Purity of the body begins with purity of the heart and mind. Coincidently, if your body continually gives into temptations, your heart and mind are slaves to that sin. To overcome the master of sexual sin, you must live by the Spirit.

Even though you might not be acting on sins of the flesh, your mind can still be trapped in sexual sin. People don't act on temptation overnight; people's actions are driven by their thoughts. Purity involves the heart and mind just as much as it involves the body.

Your body houses the Holy Spirit, and you're called to respect and honor this gift from God. Take time and ask God to reveal any impure areas of your heart, then talk about those things with a leader or parent. Accountability is critical for living in purity.

Today journal what the Lord is telling you!