

**Shekinah Glory Fellowship Center**  
*"Where Everybody Is Important"*  
Study Guide  
"Sexual Immorality" (Part 4) | "Is It a Sin?"

**Key Takeaways:**

- Sexual immorality violates God's will for sanctification and purity.
- Grace doesn't lower God's standard; it raises our ability to meet it through Christ.
- Sin (hamartia) means missing the mark of God's standard of righteousness.
- As believers, we have Jesus as our advocate when we fall short.
- Our standing before God is based on Christ's righteousness, not our perfection.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. How does the sermon's definition of sexual immorality compare to cultural views? What challenges does this present for Christians today?
2. Pastor Ricks taught during the sermon, "Grace doesn't lower the standard. It raises our ability to meet it through the life of Christ within us." How does this change your perspective on God's grace?
3. Reflect on the concept of sin as "missing the mark." How does this understanding impact your view of your own shortcomings and God's expectations?
4. How does knowing Jesus is our advocate affect how we approach God after we've sinned?
5. The sermon emphasized continuing to "aim for the standard" even when we fall short. What practical steps can we take to keep God's standards as our goal?
6. How can we support each other in living out God's call to holiness and purity in our daily lives?

### **Practical Applications:**

- This week, identify an area where you've been compromising God's standards. Commit to "aiming for the mark" in that area.
- Memorize 1 John 2:1 as a reminder of Christ's role as our advocate.
- Practice running to God (not away from Him) when you fall short this week. Journal about the experience.
- Identify cultural messages that contradict God's standards for sexual purity. Discuss how to counter these messages with biblical truth.

## **5-Day Bible Reading Plan & Devotional Guide** **“Sexual Immorality” (Part 4) | “Is It a Sin?”**

### **Day 1 | “Living a Holy Life”**

**Bible Reading:** 1 Peter 1:13-16

**Devotional:** God calls us to be holy, just as He is holy. This isn't about perfection, but about setting ourselves apart for God's purposes. Reflect on areas of your life where you can pursue greater holiness. How can you align your thoughts, actions, and desires more closely with God's will? Remember, holiness isn't achieved through our own efforts, but through surrendering to God's transforming work in us.

### **Day 2 | “Grace that Transforms”**

**Bible Reading:** Titus 2:11-14

**Devotional:** God's grace is not just about forgiveness; it's a transformative power in our lives. It teaches us to say "no" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live upright and godly lives. How has God's grace changed you? Are there areas where you're still struggling to let grace transform you? Ask God to help you fully embrace and live out the power of His grace today.

### **Day 3 | “Our Advocate in Weakness”**

**Bible Reading:** 1 John 2:1-2

**Devotional:** Even as believers, we sometimes fall short of God's standard. But we have an advocate in Jesus Christ who pleads our case before the Father. This doesn't excuse our sin, but it assures us of God's unwavering love and acceptance. When you stumble, do you run to or away from God? Practice running towards your Advocate, confessing your shortcomings and receiving His forgiveness and strength to keep aiming for holiness.

#### **Day 4 | “Standing Firm in Faith”**

**Bible Reading:** Colossians 1:21-23

**Devotional:** Through Christ's sacrifice, we have been reconciled to God and stand before Him holy and blameless. This is our position in Christ, not because of our perfection, but because of His righteousness. How does this truth impact your daily life? Are you living in the freedom and confidence of this reality? Ask God to help you stand firm in this truth, not drifting away from the assurance of the Gospel.

#### **Day 5 | “Honoring God with Our Bodies”**

**Bible Reading:** 1 Corinthians 6:18-20

**Devotional:** As believers, our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. This truth calls us to honor God with our bodies, including in our sexuality. In a world that often promotes sexual immorality, how can you cultivate purity in your thoughts and actions? Remember, pursuing sexual purity isn't about rigid rules, but about honoring the One who bought us at a price. Ask God for wisdom and strength to glorify Him in this area of your life.