

# Priority Of Purity

## Taking An Offensive Stance Towards Purity

- Taking a proactive approach to maintaining personal Holiness rather than just resisting temptation.

James 1: 13-15 NJKV, ASV

**13. Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. 14. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. 15. Then the lust, when it hath conceived, beareth sin: and the sin, when it is full-grown, bringeth forth death.**

Key characteristics of the progression:

- Temptation** (*The Seed*): Each person is tempted when drawn away by their own desire.
- Conception** (*The Action*): When desire is indulged or "conceived," it produces sin.
- Birth** (*The Sin*): The internal desire becomes an outward sinful act.
- Death** (*The Result*): When sin matures, it leads to death.

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I John 1:6

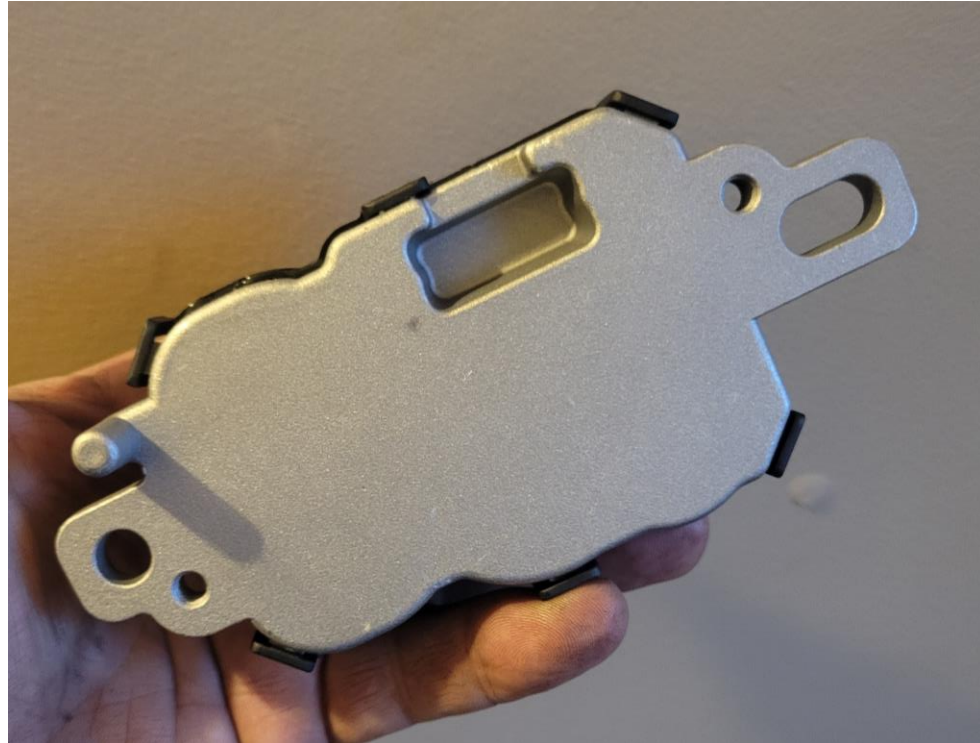
**If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.**



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**1 John 1:7**

**But if we walk in the light as He is in the light,  
we have fellowship with one another, and the  
blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from  
all sin.**



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### Hath God Said?



## Temptation VS Testing

### Satan Tempts | God Tries

**Temptation:** temptation is an enticement to act in disobedience to God's will. Its sources are the world, the flesh, and the devil. It manifests itself in the Lust of the Flesh, the Lust of the Eyes, and the Pride of Life.

### God Hath Said!



**Test:** is a situation that God sends or allows in our life with the intention of revealing our loyalties, motivations, character, and commitment to Him and helping to purify, strengthen, and mature us. If successfully passed, a test also glorifies God.

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## Understanding Our Identity

Christian selfhood is not defined in terms of who we are in and of ourselves. It is defined in terms of what God does to us and the relationship he creates with us and the destiny he appoints for us. God made us who we are so we could make known who He is. Our identity is for the sake of making His identity known.

### **2 Corinthians 5: 17, NKJV**

**17**Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

The normal human struggle is to look for our identity **horizontally** when we were hardwired by God to get it **vertically**.

Our identity isn't **achieved** but it's **received** in Christ's perfect sacrifice and God's unwavering opinion of us.

The more we **know** Him, the more we **learn** to trust Him and His Word.

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### Lust Is Pervasive

In 2024, Pure Desire Ministries teamed up with the Barna group and revealed these statistics:

Practicing Christian **Men** who watch porn:

- 78% of all generations
- almost 9 out of 10 Gen Z & Millennial men ages 18-43
- more than half are watching daily or weekly

Practicing Christian **Women** who watch porn:

- 34% of all generations
- 7 out of 10 Gen Z and millennial women ages 18-43
- 1 in 5 are watching daily or weekly



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Other facts:

-only 10% of U.S. Christians and churched adults say their church offers programming to help those struggling with USB

-when asked “Who is helping you with your struggle with USB”? a staggering 86% said, No One.

-98% of people addicted to USB will not break the habit without community support.

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Your Conscience is Precious



J.I. Packer stated, “An educated, sensitive conscience is God’s monitor. It alerts us to the moral quality of what we do or plan to do.

11 Corinthians 1:12

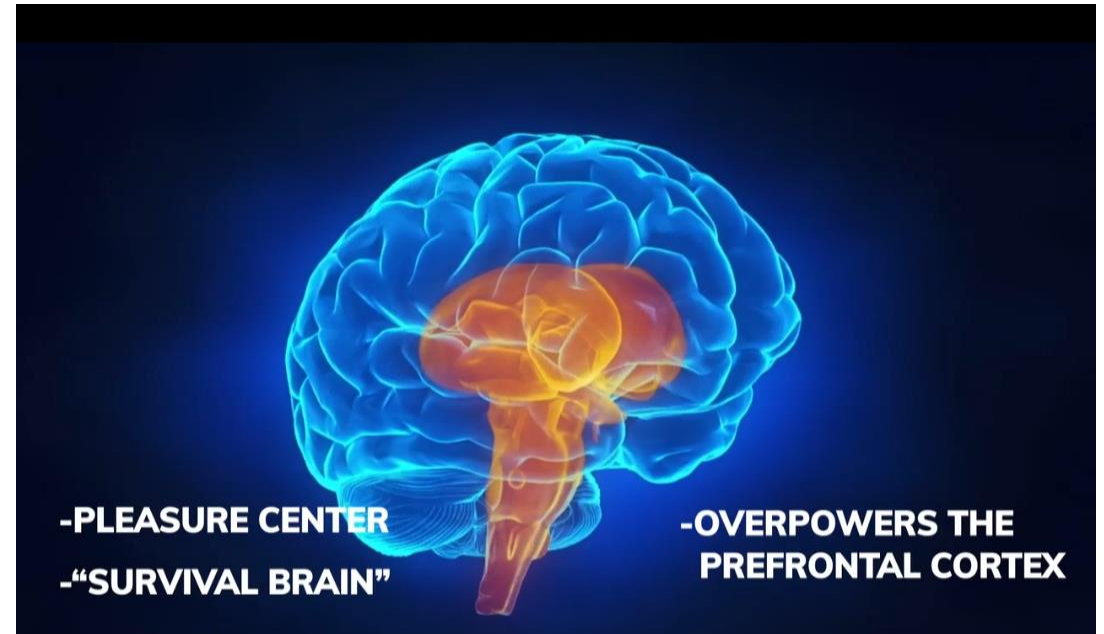
12For our boasting is this: the testimony of our conscience that we conducted ourselves in the world in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom but by the grace of God, and more abundantly toward you.

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## Prefrontal Cortex



## Limbic System



Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind

**To find freedom, it is not enough to avoid the old pathway; but a new one must be forged**

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### The Brace Method

Brace For Change

**Breathe Deeply:** inhale 4 seconds, hold 4 seconds, exhale 4 seconds

**Remember the Truth:** reminds us who God is, our identity in Him, and the consequences of our sin

**Ask for God's Help:** knowing God's promises is not enough, they must be believed to influence behavior

**Call an Accountability Partner:** breaking isolation and engaging with someone trustworthy during temptation is crucial

**Escape the Situation:** fleeing temptation means leaving isolation

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11 Timothy 2:22 NKJV

Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

1.Run From Lust, flee youthful lusts

Mentally Fleeing: bouncing our thoughts from lustful imaginations

Visually Fleeing: bouncing our eyes away from lustful images

Physically Fleeing: walking (or running) away from tempting situations

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**2. Run To Christ:** pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace

Righteousness: real integrity, a life pleasing to God

Faith: strong conviction and trust in God

Love: affection towards God and others

Peace: tranquility in the heart and harmony with God and others

**3. Run With Godly Friends:** with those who call on the Lord with a pure Heart

Run From, Run To, and Run With

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Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 11 Timothy 2: 22

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Romans 12:2

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 11 Corinthians 5:17

