



PART 4: Living on the edge

INTRODUCTION

When it comes to temptation and decision-making, we all look for loopholes. When tempted, we look for excuses to tell ourselves yes when we should tell ourselves no. We ask, “Is there anything wrong with this? Is it illegal? Will it hurt anyone?” But it’s a bad idea to assume that if something is not wrong, it’s right. Our decision-making filter shouldn’t be based on what’s permissible, but on what’s wise. In no area is this more important than decisions related to our sexual expression. There’s no area where we’re more prone to self-deception.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. As a kid, did you tend to follow the crowd or go your own way? Explain.
2. Why is it so easy for people to look at everyone else’s life and assume they want to be like everyone else? In what ways is that desire both unrealistic and unwise?
3. Where have you seen a series of small, unwise choices turn into big regret in someone’s life? Why do you think it was difficult for that person to see the potential consequences of his or her choices?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 6:18. Talk about some ways that the **consequences** of sinning against your own body are unique compared to other kinds of sin.
5. Given our cultural landscape, does the advice to flee instead of flirt seem realistic to you? Why or why not?
6. Think about where you need to quit asking, “How close can I get to sin?” and start asking, “How can I honour God with my body?” What is one step you can take this week to begin to flee from sin? How can this group support you?

MOVING FORWARD

In light of your past experience, your current circumstances, and your future hopes and dreams, what’s the wise thing for you to do? That question may seem extreme, but consider the stakes. Don’t justify. Do what’s wise. Don’t flirt. Flee.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your bodies. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20