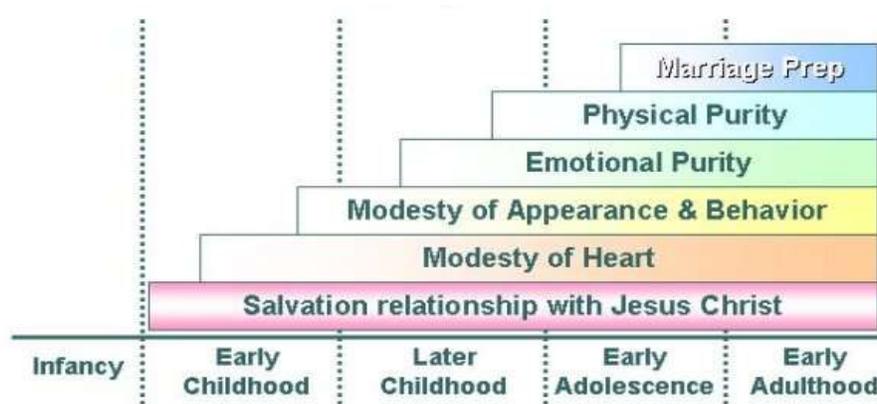


Between Modesty and Marriage: Physical Purity

Building Physical Purity on the Right Foundation



What is Physical Purity?

"Putting modesty and emotional purity into practice with self-control."

Two Essential Character Qualities

- Patience
- Self-Control

If these are not learned now, it will seriously affect all other areas of your life.

What is Patience?

"A complete trust in God's faithfulness and sovereignty in my life."

- This implies that a young adult is "making his faith his own."
- Discernment in seeking the right timing for everything in my life.

"The right thing at the wrong time is the wrong thing!"



What is Self-Control?

"A God-given ability to gain mastery over my own thoughts, feelings, and physical body."

- What kind of physical contact is appropriate only within the marriage relationship?
- What kind of physical contact is appropriate before marriage?

God's Purpose for Physical Intimacy

- Acts as "super glue" for the marriage bond.
- Provides companionship and pleasure between partners.
- Acts as a deterrent to temptation.
- Produces children who can be raised in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Reserved for Marriage

- Physical intimacy, and anything that would create a desire for physical intimacy, should be reserved for the marriage relationship.
- We should have protections in place before marriage to serve as brakes for strong emotions and desires.
- The goal would be not to let the emotional sled even start downhill!

Protections Before Marriage

- Fellowship in group settings, especially in the context of family and church.
- Accountability with parents and godly friends.
- Personal standards and convictions, developed through understanding God's standards and your specific circumstances.
- Family standards: curfews and permission to fellowship based on discernment of others' character.
- The *True Love Waits* campaign and Josh McDowell's book Why True Love Waits. The use of purity jewelry.
- Avoid any appearance of evil.
- Have the mindset of pursuing righteousness, instead of seeing how close you can get to some imaginary line without going over it.



Grace for Transgression

- Unfortunately, even Christians are susceptible to failure and sin. But God provides a way of forgiveness.
- Examine yourself.
- Parents: if you have failed in this area, you can confess that and pray that God would do a new thing in your family now.
- Teens: even though there are continuing consequences, God can give you a brand new start.

Family Activity

- Take time to reflect and discuss family standards for maintaining physical purity.