

## Senior Meeting: January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Living in the same town  
For all these years  
Doing the same old things  
Hanging with the same crowd  
And it's starting to get crippling  
You've never felt in place  
And you tell yourself it's all okay  
But something's different today  
You want to run the opposite way

And it seems like you're locked in a cage  
And you need to find a way of escape  
When everyone is setting the pace  
It's okay to run the opposite way

The Father sent His Son down  
The light of men  
The cross He bore was crippling  
Rejected in His own town  
They couldn't see the sun shining  
He knelt in the garden and prayed  
Father, let this cup pass from me  
It's not Your will for me to stay  
Your will for me is the opposite way

And it seemed like He was locked in a cage  
And He couldn't find away of escape  
But through the cross He conquered the grave  
My Jesus ran the opposite way

Oh, and through the cross He conquered the grave  
Oh, He ran the opposite way  
Yeah, through the cross He conquered the grave  
So you could run the opposite way

# LUST

# + ACTION

**You must conquer this NOW!!**

How? Ask the Holy Spirit to give you strength to fight Satan's influence on you. He uses the things of this world to try to manipulate your mind. So-

- Stop watching MTV and other sexually promiscuous shows.
- Stop buying/wearing revealing clothes
- Stop idolizing people who are not following God
- Stop looking at others as sexual objects and then talking about it (He's / She's HOT!)
- When looking at various sexual images around you (commercials, TV shows, magazines, billboards, videos, etc.) know they are from Satan, not God. He is trying to steer you away from your Heavenly Father — don't let Him win!

If you've already reached this point, it is not too late!

How to fix it? Unfortunately, God will not turn back time and erase your guilt and shame. But He can forgive your sins and He remembers them no more. It is up to you to ask for this forgiveness and then accept it and move on. Use the memory of your actions to help others NOT commit the same mistakes and also use these memories to help you stay strong so you will not go down this path again.

**You can only win this battle through the power of the Holy Spirit — you are not strong enough on your own!**  
You must be in prayer and in His Word if you are to win!

== What you give to your Future Wife



== What you give to your Future Husband

Whether you have fallen into sexual sin or have struggled with lust, you are not alone. EVERY SINGLE PERSON living on this earth has or is struggling in this area of their life, some more than others.

Because we were born into sin, we cannot escape it. This is Satan's world and he will do what he can to take our eyes from Jesus.

But you can make a change today. You can ask your Heavenly Father to give you the strength, through His Holy Spirit, to stand firm in your fight for purity. **Say NO to sexual sin and from this point on make yourself a worthy gift for your future husband or wife.**

# How Satan uses Lust and Sexual Sin

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## LUST

- The images that surround you in the everyday world begin to influence your thoughts on what is acceptable in a man or woman. Guys: girls need to have big breasts, small waists, flat stomachs, long skinny legs, and a beautiful face. Girls: guys need to have a six pack stomach, well developed upper body, nice butt, good looking face, tall, and a sultry “come get me” look. Am I right? Isn't this what the world (Satan) has taught you? If you've been taking it in and believing all that is around you, then he has you hooked!
- Now you begin dressing the part, even if your body doesn't fit the image (think of bigger girls spilling themselves into clothes that they -or anyone else for that matter- shouldn't be wearing or of guys wearing skinny jeans-what?!?) because you think that is what the opposite sex wants, and you are probably right- If you have Satan's view.
- Let's fast forward to the future. You have now been living this way for years. You're in your early twenties looking for the girl/guy of your dreams. The problem is that no one is good enough or you can't attract the people that you think you want. However, the person that God intended for you might be right next to you, but you've been too busy buying into Satan's body image scam. Because the girl/guy that God intended for you has a belly, or is short, or is skinny, or has freckles (you name it) you've never looked hard enough at the person themselves. You are doomed to a future marriage that will most likely fail because you are following Satan's plan and not God's.
- **NEWSFLASH – God doesn't care about how we look physically, nor should you.** And keep in mind that Jesus himself was not considered a good-looking dude! If God judged us on how we looked by today's standards (remember these are Satan's standards), how would you measure up? “Sorry, you're a little over weight, go to the end of the line please while I lavish my attention on the perfectly bone structured thin young lady first.” Can you imagine? Would we ever think of God behaving this way? Yet we do. Why is that? Because we are letting Satan influence us. Yes, you are preprogrammed, if you will, to be physically attracted to your future mate, but a physical attraction that *God* has created, not Satan.

## ACTION

- Now you have taken lust to the next step and have acted upon it. You've had some sort of sexual experience. Maybe it was foreplay stuff or maybe you've gone all the way. What does that mean to your future?
- Well, obviously you have a pre-conceived notion of what you want in a guy/girl. Or maybe you've been participating in so many things that have fueled your lust, you don't care who you are having sex with, just as long as you're experiencing it. So now you are getting the real deal- accept this is *out of marriage* and is most likely *not* with your future husband or wife. What happens?
- You start to make decisions on what you like and don't like. These desires start to drive your emotions and it becomes top priority. You spend years looking for these pleasures, going

through countless guys/girls to achieve this supposed pleasure- but you are never fully satisfied. (Think of all the TV shows/movies that you watch – everyone's sleeping with everyone!) Nor will you ever be, because again, you are out of God's plan and are participating in Satan's plan. What does this mean for your future wife/husband?

- They may never sexually measure up for you. You've been busy setting up rules and regulations in your sexual life that your future spouse has a slim chance of fully satisfying you, unless you find someone who has spent as much time on sex as you have – and is that what you want in a wife or husband? For those of you who say, "I want to have some experience before I get married", think about this: You would give the most precious part of yourself away, the most intimate thing that God has given us in this world, to someone other than your husband/wife just to say that you already know what it feels like and you (my husband, my wife, even though I love you very much) are number 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 in my sexual partners? Does that make sense?
- Sex is intended to be a wonderful thing. Unfortunately, the world is getting only bits and pieces of what it is truly about. Satan only gives us the physical part, which is short-lived. He does everything in his power to get you to deviate from God's plan and make you believe that this is okay. With the power of the media, Satan is systematically raping this present generation of its purity. But if we choose, God can give us both the physical and the spiritual part of sex - which can only happen in marriage.
- **Imagine:** You have worked hard not to participate in things that will promote promiscuity and lust; you don't dress seductively, you don't participate in lustful talking with others, you stay away from promiscuous media and focus on the Lord. You are reading your Bible regularly, you are in prayer with God to help you stay pure, and you have asked for forgiveness of past sins and keep your focus on Him. You date godly boys/girls who have the same values as you. You set clear boundaries and don't cross them. You begin to find qualities in men/woman that you would like in your future husband/wife. And then one day, you find the man/woman of your dreams. You are equally yoked (you both have the same Christian values) and you feel a strong attraction toward one another. You again set clear boundaries as you discover if you should pursue marriage. You become engaged and are married. On your wedding night, you get to physically discover each other for the first time, knowing that no other person has experienced this with your spouse before. You are free to explore this new world without any preconceived expectations, because you have not allowed Satan to mold your sexual thinking. You both grow together in a way you never thought possible, because you have followed God's plan! **Now that is a gift to work for!**

**Don't let Satan and his world ruin the great plan that God has for you. Fight for it, and through the Holy Spirit you can win! If you honor God, He will reward you with life to the fullest! (John 10:10)**