

# FOR YOUR OWN GOOD ...

### THE DANGERS OF SEXUAL SIN

You will not commit adultery. (Deuteronomy 5:18)

**ILLUSTRATION**: In the Bible, we find a character that got into so many problems because of this sin, that was King David. While all the kings went out to war he decided to stay home and rest. He shouldn't have stayed, as a king, he should have been the first to go out to war, as he leaned by the window he saw a woman bathing herself, he sent out for her and committed sin by sleeping with her, even though he knew she was married. That's how David fell into temptation by not having anything to do and that sin of adultery brought many problems. 2nd Samuel 11:1-27 NIV)

**INTRODUCTION**: The mandates of the Lord are for our own good, not to be of bother. There is a commandment God left about adultery, this has caused problems in families since the beginning of mankind. You decide if you obey his mandates and have a happy family or have a destroyed family by ignoring God's instructions due to this sin.

#### **DAVID'S 3 WRONG ACTIONS:**

- **1. Commits adultery with** *Bathsheba*. She ended up pregnant. David never imagined that a moment of pleasure for having broken a command from God would bring terrible consequences.
- **2**. **Trying to cover up what he did to save his reputation.** He sent for Uriah to be taken out of the war, Bathsheba's husband, got him drunk so that he would sleep with her, but he didn't do it, because he was a man committed to his war duties. Sin makes you into a liar and one sin can lead to another.
- **3. Sent for Uriah to be killed**. He sent Uriah back to the war with a note that he had to give to the captain in charge, asking for Uriah to be put in the frontlines of war so that he could be killed. Sin causes human being's to do horrible things to innocent people. We must remember that God sees all, and he does justice. When Uriah is killed God intervenes and sends a prophet to confront King David because the king had kept the secret well hidden.

#### THE 4 WHOAS OF DAVID:

- 1. His child with Bathsheba dies. (2nd Samuel 12:18)
- 2. David's son Amnon rapes his sister Tamar. (2nd Samuel 13:14)
- 3. Absalom kills Amnon. (2nd Samuel 13:31)
- 4. Absalom's death. (2nd Samuel 18:33)

## CAN GOD RESTORE THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED THROUGH THE SIN OF ADULTERY AND FORNICATION?

Yes, but life changes. You suffer consequences, life gets complicated. There is no need to get into those situations, for the problems they leave behind could cause destruction in families, instability, emotional and financial health can be ruined, etc. All for a moment of pleasure, why complicate your life?

#### STEPS OF RESTORATION FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SINNED:

- **1. Repentance**. (1 John 2:1) (Prov. 28:14) There must be genuine repentance, without repentance God can't restore or heal. Repentance is turning and walking the other way.
- **2. Humbleness**. (*Psalm 51:2-4*) There's no excuse to sin, you can't blame the world, if you have sinned you must be humble enough to recognize your sin before God. We must have someone we can be accountable to and be humble enough to follow instructions.
- **3. Patience**. In order for God to complete the restoration process, we must be patient, although it hurts, you can be forgiven, but you need to work on gaining trust once again, it's a process.

**CONCLUSION**: There are dangers for the family because of sexual sin. How many families haven't been destroyed by this sin? We must prevent before causing harm. We need to become aware and start a new generation of holiness, obeying the commandments that God left us and making Jesus our Lord and Savior.

**SALVATION PRAYER:** Lord Jesus I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart so you can be my Lord and personal Savior.

**INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:** What did you learn with this teaching? What can we do to avoid falling into Adultery and Fornication? Do you know of anyone who has gone through a process like this? What were the consequences they faced?

## PRACTICAL APPLICATION: (Prevention)

- Humility. We must have humility and be aware that we can all be tempted.
- Decide in advance that adultery is not an option for our life.
- Set limits. Don't get involved in compromising situations.
- Surround yourself with people in a house of peace to stay healthy.

## THE DANGERS OF ALCOHOL

And you must always obey the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good. (Deuteronomy 10:13 NLT).

INTRODUCTION: There is much controversy about whether it is biblically permitted to drink alcohol or not, but today we will be learning about the dangers of alcohol and the effects they can cause in families.

#### 1. WE CANNOT DENY THAT:

- Paul told Timothy to drink a little wine for his stomach problems. (1 Timothy 5:23). But he told him "a bit of wine" (grape juice), not tequila, vodka, rum, cognac, etc.
- Jesus converted water into wine in the weddings in Canaan.
- God created plants that produce marijuana, cocaine, alcohol, etc. He created plants and elements, but man has manipulated them to create toxic chemical substances, atomic bombs, gunpowder to make guns, etc.
- Maybe the commandments do not say "You shall not smoke or drink, you shall not get high or watch pornography", but the Bible says in its commandments: "You shall not kill," and all these things bring death, death for others and for yourself.
- The effects of alcohol are horrible, they damage the brain in such a way that some areas die. They become dysfunctional due to alcohol and drugs.

 It all starts with a social sip, it begins with happiness, but then domestic violence occurs, and marriages and children end up affected. There are times when even the children end up addicted to drugs or alcohol, there are car accidents, etc.

# 2. GOD GIVES US THE COMMANDMENTS FOR OUR OWN GOOD.

- To prevent and restore. (1 Co. 6:10-12). On one hand, Paul told Timothy to drink a little wine, but on the other hand the Word of God also says that drunkards will not inherit God's kingdom.
- Everything is allowed, but not everything benefits me. It's not about discussing whether or not it's Biblical to drink, rather about being wise and cutting off generational curses from the past and living a healthy life here on Earth.

# 3. WHERE DO THESE BAD DESIRES COME FROM? (Galatians 5:19-22)

From sinful nature, the source is the flesh. What does not come from God comes from the Devil; what does not come from light comes from darkness; what does not come from the Spirit comes from the flesh.

#### 4. WHAT ARE THE DANGERS OF

**ALCOHOL?** (*Proverbs* 23:29-35)

- Unnecessary injuries
- Sadness
- Discussions
- Bruised eyes
- Hallucinations. While scientists are barely discovering it, the Bible had already warned us about the dangers of alcohol years before.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

Do not get drunk with wine because that will ruin your life, rather be full of the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 5:18). Start a new generation that is holy, healed, full of the fruits of the Holy Spirit, love, peace, faith, gentleness, humility, self-control, etc. Begin by giving your life to Christ.

**SALVATION PRAYER:** Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent, and I ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and heart so you can be my Lord and personal Savior. Amen.

## **INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:**

- What did God speak to you through this lesson?
- Do you have any battles with your flesh?
- In what way can you avoid falling into temptation?

- Stay connected with a House of Peace.
- If you were falling into the temptation of an addiction, ask God for forgiveness.
- Remain full of the Holy Spirit to avoid falling into temptation.
- If you are battling with temptation, ask God for help and be accountable to a mentor.
- Remember, "Everything is permitted, but not everything benefits me." (1 Corinthians 6:11).

## THE DANGERS OF ALCOHOL

## **PART 2 (INTERVIEW)**

**ILLUSTRATION:** "When an evil spirit leaves a person, it goes into the desert, seeking rest but finding none. Then it says, 'I will return to the person I came from. So, it returns and finds its former home empty, swept, and in order. Then the spirit finds seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they all enter the person and live there. And so that person is worse off than before. That will be the experience of this evil generation.". (Matthew 12:43-45 NLT)

INTRODUCTION: Addictions in people are caused by the absence of God. They attempt to fill the voids in their heart with alcohol, drugs etc. There have been cases in where people stop drinking, but they only change the habit, anger and other emotions come. Because if they don't fill it with God, they will attempt to fill it with other things. When the house is empty, 7 worse spirits come, and the state of the person becomes worse.

1. HOW DOES THE ALCOHOLIC LOOK AT THEIR FAMILY? The addict or person with problems of alcoholism does suffer. The issue is, that at times they have a resentment or wound from something that marked them in their childhood, In the bottom of their heart they know they are harming their family, but they can't leave the vice. While on the other hand the family gets angry because they believe the person does know what they are doing, and they begin to build a repressed anger and resentment towards them.

## 2. PROGRESSIVE STAGES OF ALCOHOLISM:

- a. **The Social Drinker**. Everything seems "fine", everyone in the family enjoys the party, because the person has yet to pass the invisible line between social drinking and the problem. Their wife and kids even go to buy the social drink because they have yet to see it be a harm to their family. The person still works and is responsible to a certain extent.
- b. **The Problem.** The person begins to lose discernment of what is right and wrong, they begin to put excuses to not go to work, money becomes scarce in the family, the family begins to become even more dysfunctional.
- c. **Chronic stage.** Communication between the family is lost, Resentment grows, anger, bitterness, feeling incapable to do anything. There are occasions where the person doesn't even remember what they did the next day, they don't remember the pain they caused the family and they begin to feel a sense of guilt, and that is called a moral hangover.

## 3. EVERYONE WITH ADDICTIONS BEHAVE THE SAME WAY?

There are people who can react aggressively, others calmly, and others are inhibited.

## 4. ARE ADDICTIONS THE SICKNESS OR SYMPTOM?

They are the symptom. There is a root as to why they drink, it's most likely a childhood problem, a strong act that happened that they someway want to "forget it", but logically they are creating a worse problem.

# 5. WHAT CAN FAMILY MEMBERS DO THAT IN ANY WAY FEEL GUILTY?

Although due to resentment it may be difficult, let's give them love, but not be too bland. If you caused the harm, let's ask for forgiveness and find rest in God, because if not, you begin to live that person's life, offer help, like a retreat, invite them to a program like celebrating recovery, to church etc.

**SOLUTION**: Don't leave the house empty, fill it with the power and presence of the Holy Spirit and repentance is necessary (Isaiah 1:18) As long as there is no repentance there is no solution.

#### STEPS TO PREVENT:

- Have humility. We must recognize that anyone can fall, we are all vulnerable, so we must be careful with the social cup.
- **Decide in advance.** Decide in advance that alcohol is not an option for my life, because if you do not decide before, when temptation comes, you will fall.
- **Put limits.** Do not get into places where you should not.
- You have to surround yourself with people in a small group to stay healthy. House of Peace, discipleship, Church, Celebrating Recovery, etc.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

Most families have gone through havoc with alcohol causing suffering. Do not leave the house empty, without Christ there is no solution. There will be many things that can help, but nothing like the Holy Spirit that can transform. We must fill in the gaps with the Holy Spirit, with the supernatural power of God.

There is no need to be filled with artificial things, with the Holy Spirit we have everything.

**SALVATION PRAYER:** Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness, I give you my life and heart so you may be my Lord and personal Savior, Amen.

## **INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:**

- How many of you lived with the damages that alcoholism causes, in your home?
- Is there any emptiness in your heart?
- Have you already decided in advance to set limits so as not to fall into temptation?

- If you have a family member with problems, ask for help.
- Decide in advance not to give in to the social drink.
- Keep your house filled with the Holy Spirit.

## THE ART OF BEING PARENTS II

## Building the identity of the children

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4 NLT)

#### **ILLUSTRATION:**

Bar soap, if you release it too much it will fall but it will also happen if you try to squeeze it and control it. When you try to control your children that's why at times, they want to leave the house early and grow up with much resentment.

**INTRODUCTION:** Being parents is an art, it's not easy, and we must always keep learning. We must understand that we are all different and that children shouldn't be a copy of the mother or father. They are going to go through processes, and at first, they depend on a lot of us like parents and then a time arrives when they are ready to advance in their development, but we can't hinder them during that process. All human beings are born with a necessity of knowing who they are and the way to know is through the parents, parents are a mirror for them.

## 1. THERE ARE DIFFERENT TYPES OF PARENTS:

This is also learned because we got our identity from our parents, they molded us a little and that's why sometimes we can fall to extremes.

 Negligent parents: They don't put rules, they don't give direction and aren't interested in the children, they don't give love or affection. They don't discipline and sadly what the child absorbs and what they understand from their identity is that if no one is interested in him, they'll think they have no worth, so they grow exposed to the dangers of outside. That's why they want to be part of a group by finding their identity they go to gangs, drugs, alcohol, since the parents don't put limits in the lives of their children. They don't put rules, they never told them their value, if they aren't responsible for their children's education, the children will leave school, church, etc. Maybe those parents are negligent because they had negligent parents.

**Permissive** parents: Too affectionate, zero rules, thinks the children don't need rules. discipline, is overprotective, doesn't want the children to do anything, solves everything for them so the children become codependents. The children can grow up being antisocial, fearful, they don't know how to take decisions, have no goals because they are always in the shadow of their parents. When they grow up, they will remain the same way. There is no clear identity because of everything from their background.

## Dominant or authoritarian parents:

(Ephesians 6:4) They have a lot of rules and no affection. They put limits and they don't transition when the child converts to a teenager. They continue being the same and since it's very hard, the children acquire an

identity of perfection, they think they have to be perfect to be accepted. That creates a self-destruction in them because the bar is becoming higher higher. These children and sometimes hurt themselves, hiding things from parents, because they aren't accepted. They are very afflicted with normal mistakes that every human being makes, and they bring a lot of anger against themselves. When they get married, they'll think that they are right about everything. The majority are super intelligent and creative, but they sabotage themselves, achievement they reach, thev'll consider it not worthy. Once they're adults they will continue that cycle with their own children.

• Healthy or participatory parents: They don't tell their kids what to do at all times, they don't make decisions for them. They don't judge them if they're wrong but simply talk to them. They give them their expectations as parents and give them the option of deciding and tells them the consequences of their decisions. The parents value what they think but without totally letting go when they are minors.

**CONCLUSION:** It's not about bringing condemnation, we are all a new creature. Love your children, respect them, give them your point of view but don't impose your point of view. In majority of cases the children aren't the problem, the problem are the parents. Communication could be a problem.

The struggles that we will have with our teenagers will only be won by being on our knees. Ask God for wisdom, model the love of God and acceptance so they can find their calling, their purpose and a healthy identity. We aren't perfect parents, but we are in time to become better.

**SALVATION PRAYER:** Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart so you can be my Lord and personal savior, amen.

## **INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:**

- With what type of parent did you identify yourself?
- What changes do you have to make to be a healthy parent?
- With what identity have you formed your children?

- If you haven't been a healthy parent, ask for forgiveness.
- If you are having problems with your children, go on your knees and ask God for wisdom.
- Keep looking for God so you can model His love with your children, and they can grow with a healthy identity.

## THE ART OF BEING PARENTS

Only be careful and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them. (Deuteronomy 4:9 NIV)

**ILLUSTRATION:** The Lord had taken His people out of Egypt, after almost 400 years of slavery; they'd witnessed many miracles, they saw the sea open up and how manna fell from the sky, they saw water come out of a rock for 2 million people to drink, they saw God's favor in miraculous ways; but on that journey the Lord also gave commandments, because He saw how easy it was for them to go astray by different idols, that's why He left this important commandment (Deut. 4: 9 NIV)

**INTRODUCTION:** Those of us who are parents, often, without realizing, act just like our parents did. How many of us feel like we haven't been the best parents? It's not easy being parents because we weren't taught how, but God tells us in His Word that we should leave our children a foundation. What are those foundations?

- 1. WE MUST TRANSMIT THE WORD OF GOD TO OUR CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN AND FUTURE GENERATIONS, SO THAT THEY WILL NOT FORGET IT. (Prov. 22:6 NKJV)
- Tell them about the miracles you've seen. Tell them when you saw an arm grow, when God worked a miracle on you or them.

- Tell them that God exists, that He's real. So, when they go to their university and hear atheistic theories, they do not deviate.
- May your children be prepared to not believe when scientists say that "there is no God", and when they try to steal their faith, by saying: "miracles have no reasoning, they're not logical, your children can respond: "They have no reason, precisely because God's miracles exceed reason, God surpasses logic" We don't denied logic, but when God appears its above reasoning and logic.
- Teach them that the Bible is true. Books need updating, medical books must be renewed every year, but the Bible always remains the same and relevant. "The Word of God remains forever."
- We need to instruct our children with the discipline of the Lord. If our parents had instructed us in the Word of God, we would have avoided many problems, but no one transmitted the word to them either. (Ephesians 6: 4 NIV)
- Repeat the commandments to your children. (Deut. 6: 6-7 NIV) At all times, tell them: "Do not fornicate, do not do drugs" etc. Even if they respond with: "Oh, Dad, you already told me."

• If we don't repeat them, they'll repeat bad ideas on the street.

We shouldn't be religious with them, because then we're going to upset them. There are practical ways to teach God's commandments to our children and maintain biblical values in their hearts.

# 2. CHILDREN ARE A HERITAGE FROM THE LORD. (Psalm 127: 3 NIV)

- If our parents didn't treat us as God's inheritance, or they divorced, remember that we're a new creature in Christ Jesus, and now we're going to do things correctly.
- We can't do anything about the past, if we've made mistakes as parents, just ask for forgiveness, and know that we are new creatures. Let's learn the Word of God and put it into practice in our daily lives.

# 3. PARENTS ARE SEED SOWERS IN THEIR CHILDREN.

We can sow good or bad seeds.

- Parents of faith. They sow seeds of faith and reap seeds of faith in their children.
- Violent parents. They sow seeds of violence and obtain disastrous results.
- Atheist parents. They sow that God does not exist and their children pay the consequences.
- Absent parents, insecure parents, etc. Each one sows different seeds. Our words are seeds.

**CONCLUSION:** This isn't about bringing guilt to parents. It's raising awareness to start sowing seeds of blessing, so that good crops may come in later with joy. Parent's words mark children's lives. We must leave a foundation of God's Word in our children.

**PRAYER OF SALVATION:** Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart to be my personal Lord and Savior, amen.

## **INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:**

- Were you instructing your children with the Word of God?
- Are you applying what you teach them in your life?
- What kind of seeds have you sown in your children?
- Have you told them about the miracles God has done in your life?

- If you haven't instructed your children with the Word of God, start now!
- If reading the Bible was not a habit, start now.
- If you're not modeling the commandments, start now.



There is a place for you