Pornography - Permanent Victory

I have personally walked with hundreds of people who have battled porn addictions over 40+ years of pastoring.

Through these hundreds of extensive experiences, I have learned that there is **ONE MAJOR FACTOR** that **separates** those who gain permanent victory from those who repeatedly return to the addiction of pornography.

It is true that there are **MANY factors** along the path of victory. Factors such as:

1. Remove Temptation
2. Re-gain control over your thoughts through prayer time and memorizing
3. Inner healing, Demonic Deliverance and Personal Counseling
4. Consequences

I have seen many individuals use **all four** of these steps and **still FAIL** long term.

Before you tackle any of these steps, it is so important to answer the **one question** that separates those who **SUCCEED** from those who **FAIL!** This is the question...

Do you understand the covenant of Salvation?

Everyone who has entered the covenant of salvation through Jesus Christ has a single consuming life purpose. Our single consuming life purpose is to bring others closer to Jesus through one-on-one relationships. Jesus summed this up in the two words: "Make Disciples".

This life purpose drives every decision and action. Our jobs, our finances, our marriages, our families, every relationship, every interaction, every trial & every victory are all opportunities to bring someone closer to Jesus.

People who live in God's life purpose are **VERY OBVIOUS**.

1. Their hunger to bring others closer to Jesus inspires them to be faithful in church, faithful to tithe, quick to serve, determined to be positive and to build unity in their church family.



2. Their hunger to bring others closer to Jesus energizes them to be kind, quick to forgive and to humble themselves in any strife, and eager to learn more about Jesus in any trial!



3. Their hunger to bring others closer to Jesus makes them constantly eager to love & learn more about God's Word and to grow deeper in prayer and to walk in the Holy Spirit.

This is why Jesus said:

Mt. 7:16-20 You will **know them by their fruits**. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Therefore **by their fruits you will know them**.

The Bible indicates that many or most of those who call themselves Christians will be shocked to find out that they were never truly saved. Here are over 20 passages that emphasize this truth. Mt. 3:10, Mt. 7:21-24, Mt. 13:18-23, Mt. 25:1-13, Mt. 25:14-29, Mt. 25:31-46, Lk. 12:35-46, John 15:1-2, John 15:6, Rom. 11:22, I Cor. 15:2, II Cor. 13:5, I Tim. 6:21, II Tim. 2:18,21, II Tim. 3:1-5, II Pt. 2:19-22, Heb. 6:4-6, Heb.10:26-39, James 5:19-20, I John 2:19, I John 4:20

Many people want to be free from porn so that they can have a **BETTER LIFE!**Many people want Jesus in their life so that they can have a **BETTER LIFE!**

In both cases these are still **SELFISH MOTIVES**.

The reason you **got into** porn was raw selfishness.

If the reason you want to be free from porn is the same motive of selfishness, then you will fail because selfishness cannot conquer selfishness!

Proverbs 16:2 All a person's ways seem pure to them, but MOTIVES are weighed by the Lord.

1 Corinthians 4:5 Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the **MOTIVES** of the heart.

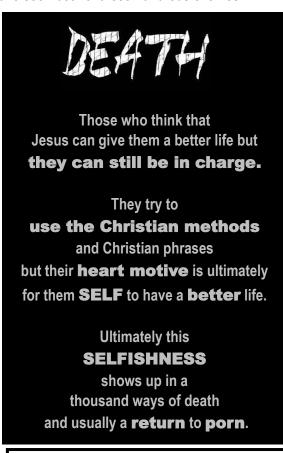
The very **definition** of "SIN" is "Selfishness".

Is. 53:6 We all like sheep have gone astray.

Each of us has turned to HIS OWN WAY.

And the Lord has laid on him the INIQUITY (sin) of us all.

I have seen both of these hundreds of times.



When I am struggling..

My response is...
I need to

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Those who use the horror of porn realize that

ALL SELFISHNESS is DEATH and that ONLY JESUS is LIFE.

We find a consuming life purpose to bring others to Jesus as Jesus lives through us.

This divine purpose brings a **POWER** to overcome that the world can never understand.

Every hardship is only an opportunity.

That is why the hard challenges required to be free from porn are privileges which help me bring more people to Jesus.

We grow stronger in grace, love, humility and serving every decade.

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Once God's Consuming Life Purpose is Clear you will do the obvious things.

You will always find the healthiest local church you can find and be faithful to attend and to serve with a humble heart. You will tithe faithfully, learn to pray and study God's Word daily and learn to build healthy friendships.

When disappointed or facing wrong situations, you will be humble, merciful and eager for Jesus to teach you more of his heart. You will remain free from offense and continue to serve with more wisdom and kindness.

Your people skills will grow every decade and your wisdom in helping others to grow in Jesus will grow every decade.

Your love for God's Word, God's Spirit and God's Local Church will grow every decade.

Along with these very **NORMAL** points of Christian growth, the following four tips will help you walk in great freedom.

1. Remove temptation

The biggest reason many Godly people repeatedly dive into pornography is because they foolishly assume that they can resist temptation. That is a total lie. In no place does God's Word tell us to resist temptation. It commands us multiple times to "FLEE" temptation.

Thus, to be free, any person would need to do the following steps:

- i. Completely remove internet from their phone and not use any other mobile internet devices.
- Only use the internet on a desktop or laptop with spyware and strong accountability.
- iii. Greatly limit the total amount of TV and movies but also the types of TV and movies.

On our church website under the heading of "Specialty Ministries" you will find two pages titled: "Cell Phone Resources" & "Computer Filter Options" that can help you in these areas.

2. Re-gain control over your thoughts through prayer time and memorizing

Once pictures of pornography are stored in your brain, Satan, the world, and your flesh want to bring them back up into your mind. Bringing these pictures back into your mind is like being mugged by five large guys. When you go 1-2 days without time with the Lord, you will get mugged 30 to 50 times that day. When you spend a serious hour with the Lord you will only get mugged 3 times that day. When you can quote large passages of God's word it is like pulling out a gun on these five guys who are mugging you.

All other points of victory are for internal healing or external protection. This is the only point of internal POWER! You will memorize 2 chapters in the next six months and then one chapter a year for the rest of your life. This is the only tool that makes the man feel strong and confident. This is the only tool that completely restores his manhood. This internal power is the difference between partial victory and total victory. This power starts by reading my book "*Prayers Answered Immediately*" and watching the seven videos. Please pay special attention to chapter 12 & Appendix B.

It is essential for you to combine your out-loud quoting with some daily habit that you do every day for at least 15 minutes a day. It is also essential to learn to quote the word EVERY time you battle lust in your mind.

Within a year, you will have built up to a minimum of an hour a day of quoting God's word! By learning to use Bible quoting plus all other tools, you will have a powerful time with the Lord every day.

3. Inner healing, Demonic Deliverance and Personal Counseling

Every person who gets involved in pornography needs inner healing and deliverance. The deep root of pornography is often tied to a sense of being a "Failure". This awareness that the root issue is "Failure" is a significant compass during the inner healing process.

It is also important in this process to make sure that you go beyond inner healing and have someone lead you specifically in deliverance. When you seek out pornography, you have entered a level of perversion that legally permits Satan to release very large and powerful demons into your soul.

I highly recommend both the *Bondage Breaker* book by Neil Anderson and personal counselors who specialize in this area of ministry.

4. Consequences

According to Matthew 5:27-28, pornography is adultery! In the 1960s the drunken driving laws in the United States had very little CONSEQUENCES. As a result, it was common to know people who had received 10-15 DUIs. Then MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) came along and began a high-profile national campaign for tougher drunk driving laws. Now it is very rare to know anyone who has had more than two DUIs.

The only difference between now and the 1960s is that today a third DUI will result in an extended jail sentence in many states. The authorities simply brought in severe consequences for drunk driving and the amount of drunk driving greatly decreased.

Consequences are one of the best gifts that a wife can give her mate. It is even more important for the husband to WANT consequences and to SEEK clear, consistent, strong, and non-negotiable consequences. A "child" has to have consequences forced on them, but an "adult" SEEKS consequences because they understand that consequences make them stronger.

<u>I Cor. 11:31</u> But if we **judged ourselves**, we would not come under judgment.

Prov. 12:1 Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid.

Please notice that God's Word clearly states that people who do NOT seek out discipline and correction have a terrible self-image. They hate themselves.

Prov. 15:32 He who ignores discipline despises himself, but whoever heeds correction gains understanding.

Married People

Here is my recommendation to any couple dealing with repeated instances of a husband giving himself to pornography. I recommend that they write out and sign some agreed upon consequences. You are welcome to write up your own consequences. Here is my suggestion.

- i. The next time the husband participates in pornography, he will **move out** for **three** months of separation.
- ii. The second time the husband participates in pornography, the husband will move out for **six** months.
- iii. The third time the husband participates in pornography the marriage is over and a divorce will be finalized.

These are fairly mild consequences for a man who chooses to have three more affairs after repeated multiple affairs in the past. When the husband has access to all these extremely powerful tools to break pornography and continues to have three more pornographic affairs, it would indicate that the husband does not WANT to walk in victory.

Most of all, it is essential to understand that the goal of consequences is to **GIVE STRENGTH** to the husband. It is often hard for ladies to understand how men's brains are wired. The "**Bottom Line**" Orientation dominates every man's brain.

If every other tool is in place but a man can "**Get Away**" with pornography, his "Bottom Line" brain may **NOT** be able to resist the temptation, simply because he can "**Get Away**" with it.

Consequences are often the greatest gift to the man who is battling with pornography.

Single Adults

I covered married people first because I wanted the single adult to see the **SEVERITY** of the consequences. They are appropriate, relevant, apropos, & right. They give an accurate picture of the seriousness of the sin.

It is so incredibly sad and full of deception that ANYONE thinks they can break the addictive grip of pornography without setting up a structure of severe consequences in their lives.

For singles it is NEVER enough to just have a friend to whom you confess your sin. What ELSE happens.

- i. Are you giving up your phone for weeks or months?
- ii. Are you willing to give up having a smart phone?
- iii. Are you willing to expand the circle to whom you confess each time you sin?
- iv. Have you put filters on your devices that you can NOT personally remove?
- v. Do you have a written plan of times of fasting from ALL media each time you sin?

These are just five of MANY examples of consequences that a single person can bring into their life.

The **KEY** is to have good friends and to **WRITE DOWN** the consequences with everyone **SIGNING** the sheet.