

Young Mothers 2018

November 4, 2018 | Lesson 09

Assignment:

Ministry Wives' SS on Purity from 2012, 2017
(no audio; but handouts given in class)

Purity of Mind and Body

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Memory Passage: Romans 12:1-2

*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God,
That ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable
unto God, which is your reasonable service.² And be not
conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the
renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good,
and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

Introduction: We are in a purity crisis.

I. Purity of Heart and Mind Begins with Salvation

Biblical teaching is foolishness to the unregenerate.
At salvation, the Mind War begins.



II. Sanctification: Purity is a Process

*By this will we have been sanctified through
the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
Hebrews 10:10*

Period. Done. Christ sat down at the right hand of God. Believers are saved, secure, and sanctified.

But, verse 14:

*For by one offering He has perfected for all time those
who are **sanctified**.*

[This is a progressive verb: “being sanctified.”]

Therefore, Believers are holy, and they are being made holy through the ongoing, *and often agonizing process of sanctification*.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.² And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. Romans 12:1-2, KJV

The ablest scholar is one who can get a passage of Scripture from his ear to his brain the best. But the best Christian is the one who can get that passage of Scripture from his brain to his heart.

Richard Baxter, *The Saints Everlasting Rest*

Sin and doubt, and sinful fear start in our minds. We cannot control circumstances, other people, nor our hormones. And all that does make controlling the mind and emotions very difficult. Then factor in that our hearts are quite likely to deceive us. Our minds are fallen and “bent” away from God and Truth to such a degree that we can’t even separate fact from fiction sometimes! Our thoughts and reasoning, the way “things really are”, are erroneously apprehended by our mental processes, yet seem so “real” to us. That is when “because of practice hav[ing our] senses trained to discern good and evil” is lifesaving, sanity saving! When the fear and doubt still intrude into our minds and disturb our peace, we must continue to quote His Words to ourselves, and to Him, in supplication for help and rescue! Then sometimes you have to mentally slam the door on those thoughts and just refuse to go there!

So how do you know if you are experiencing unhealthy emotions? Well, because emotions are supposed to come, and go.

III. Let Christ Cleanse Your “Past” and Your Conscience

Behind every fall and every failure, there's usually a lie.
And you believed the lie. You allowed yourself to believe it.
The problem is in your mind and heart.

God is a sympathetic High Priest. Jesus Christ's blood is sufficient.

“There is no pit so deep, that God's love is not deeper still.”
Corrie Ten Boom

IV. Purity is a Process

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
Matthew 5:8

The Sermon on the Mount taught the way of righteous living for Kingdom Citizens, and it was about not what they do or what they look like, but what they “are.”

Christ transforms from the inside out. He is more concerned about the heart because of the outflow: the progression of holiness transforms the way we speak, the way we dress, and the way we conduct our relationships.

V. Pure in Body: Living the Gospel

Purity encompasses so much more than the physical, the outward appearance. Purity is the “inner clean”, and it’s an ongoing process. We aren’t talking about a state of purity we are in. It isn’t static. We’re talking about a life-long journey, that has ups and downs, and valleys and storms, and a smiling Providence to lead us. We’re talking about a life-long journey, that has ups and downs, and valleys and storms, and a smiling Providence to lead us.

- A. Pure Tongue
- B. Kind and Wise in Speech
- C. Entertainment
- D. “Attitude” Sins
- E. Dress: I Peter 3:3-5
 - *Is it modest?
 - *Is it feminine?
 - *Is it worldly?
 - *Is it appropriate
- F. Sexual Purity
 - Purity is not virginity: virginity once gone is gone forever.
 - The Gospel: Purity lost can be restored by God!

We should be spiritual minded enough to seek the good of all men by being pure ourselves. Limiting our freedom for the good of others shows maturity, true love, and concern.

We are to be strict with ourselves and gracious towards others. We are not to be judgmental; we should help others towards purity.

VI. Training the Next Generation

Innocence is good and to be protected; Naïveté can be dangerous. Beware of “counselors of ungodliness.” You and your husband need to teach your children to be light bearers.

VII. Be a Gatekeeper for Your Home

We do what we do because we love what we love.

This is the love of [for] God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome. 1 John 5:3

Rhema = verse or portion of Scripture that can be used in a particular situation or time of need for help and direction.

Personal Note: I want to encourage you that what seems impossible with man is possible with God.

You are in the thick of the work – and discipline and training that will in the end yield the peaceful fruit of righteousness. Don’t faint!

Pastor Minnick said several years back in regard to our following the Lord and keeping His commandments:

“There are no guarantees.”

That statement hit me in my pew. What Pastor meant is to follow the Lord with a pure heart and clean hands. We obey His Word and discipline our children and train them as we are directed in the Bible; we submit to and respect our husbands; we pray and give and use up our lives in His service. And we do all this joyfully, with love!

And we leave the results up to His kind and wise intentions.