

Mission Possible: Break a Man's Isolation

Recent surveys of the church suggest that among young Christian men, over three quarters of them watch pornography at least once a month, and over a third watch porn daily. Having tried to quit hundreds of times, Christian men are often trapped in a cycle of temptation, indulgence, and shame.

Every man's story is different. Some were exposed to porn at young ages—warping a tender mind. Some turn to porn as a means to cope with life's difficulties. Some use it as a replacement for the relationships they desire most. Some fall in love with the fantasy world where they are never rejected.

Despite the variety of heart motivations, one of the most common threads among compulsive and habitual porn users is isolation. Many feel isolated in shame, unable to fully confess just how far they've gone, and afraid of what their porn use says about them. Many feel isolated in their homes, habitually drawn to the screen rather than face-to-face relationships. Many feel isolated at church, believing that if others knew their dark secret, they would be labeled as perverts. Others feel isolated in hopelessness, believing there is nothing strong enough to change them.

To disciple these men, your first, second, third, and last mission is to break the isolation. This means accountability. Accountability is not just being willing to have someone call you out on your sin—though it certainly is that. Accountability is being willing to have someone else call you up to the person you truly are in Christ.

Being an effective accountability partner is difficult, requiring sacrifice, wisdom, and dependence on God, but it is also powerful and life-changing.

To help you and mentors you know become great accountability partners, download the free book, *Coming Clean: Overcoming Lust Through Biblical Accountability*, available at www.covenanteyes.com/accountability-partner-ebook.

Based on an article from Covenant Eyes with appreciation to Sam Black.

Download copies at leadersconference.org/tools



Resources to Help You Disciple Men: Sexual Purity

Ministries & Web Sites

Covenant Eyes — www.covenanteyes.com
Pure Life Ministries — www.purelifeministries.org
Proven Men — www.provenmen.org
Forging Bonds — www.forgingbonds.org
Restoring Sexual Purity — www.restoringsexualpurity.org
(most of these sites have excellent sources for statistics on pornography use and other sexual sin)

Books

When Good Men Are Tempted, Bill Perkins
Samson and the Pirate Monks, Nate Larkin
Undefiled, Harry Schaumberg
Wired for Intimacy, William M. Struthers
Sex is Not the Problem (Lust Is), Josh Harris
Sexual Sanity for Men, David White
Sex and the Supremacy of Christ, John Piper and Justin Taylor, eds.

Resources/Curriculum

A Proven Path to Sexual Integrity — Proven Men
Sex and the Man in the Mirror Video Bible Study — Man in the Mirror
Moral Purity Toolbox — Man in the Mirror
At the Altar of Sexual Idolatry — Pure Life Ministries