

Comments & Questions for Leader/Facilitators

Week 2 DVD #2

Pornography and related inappropriate sexual behavior is a secret idol. Finding satisfaction in them, rather than in God, is a form of idol worship because it replaces our reverence and need for God.

Leadership Tip

In nearly every DVD there will be some statement made that we would not embrace. Dr. Roberts has a military background and almost all his statements are imperatives and his illustrations of a military theme. Scripture also uses many military terms. So please resist the judgement that he is trying to be macho. Consider the context of his life and Christ saving and delivering him from enormous pain, rejection and sinful habits. His heart and motive is good and there is a point behind the imperative that is valid even though we would disagree with framing a particular principle the way he does. For example, in DVD #1 he mentions the wound David received from his father calling him a worthless one. He goes on to state that this undealt with, or unprocessed, wound is why he slept with Bathsheba. We think it could have played a role, and maybe even been the main contributor to his compromise but the scripture doesn't clearly state that it is. Regardless, Roberts point is correct that unresolved wounds can result in disastrous choices and most of the time addictions of any kind are tied to the root of old wounds.

In DVD #7 Roberts will state, "You know the first question the LORD is going to ask you when you get to heaven" and then goes on. There is an accurate point behind his comments even though scripture never says that we will be asked any question when appearing before the LORD.

So feel free to correct them as you go along so your men don't get distracted by these types of things and miss the correct principles that are laid out.

Feel free to reach out to me anytime. We are praying for you and your men.

Lead by example. Set the standard for honesty, transparency, and vulnerability. This is not about performance or perfection. Allow Christ to use you exactly where you are to accomplish His will in others.

I. Transparency/Accountability

The leader/facilitator goes first. Be honest about your history and any recent stumble or struggle. The others will then follow suit at some level. Some will divulge more in the weeks ahead. James 5:16 1Peter 5:5

- When someone acknowledges a past struggle with pornography/other sexual sins or a current ongoing problem, questions must be asked of each person to determine their pattern of falling. When do they look? (day, night, weekends, only when alone) Where do they look? (bedroom, car, work etc) Why do they look? (times of stress, depression, loneliness, etc.) Are they involved with other people?

Disclosure and transparency is a key step to freedom. Denial must be broken. The strength of sin is in the secret.

- Once the above questions are answered then each one should be asked what they think the next step is to remedy their pattern. For example, if all of their fallings is

exclusively on a phone in their bedroom at night then the phone must be removed and in some cases even locked up until morning and never brought into the bedroom. "Make no provision for the flesh to fulfill its lusts."

II. Discussion

Watch DVD 2. You can use your own questions but following are suggestions:

1. The tape mentions trying harder doesn't work in relation to addictions. Do you understand the difference between simply trying to manage sin and the real need for, and impact of, the grace of Christ?
2. Since we last met has each one been able to clean their devices and homes of inappropriate material and select filters and accountability software so there is an accountability report to your spouse, or among your group?

III Lesson Overview.

Reminder: The "Noose of Bondage" is composed of:

1. The root; Wounds
2. The mindset: Having a shame perspective of oneself.
3. The lifestyle: Binge-purge cycle
4. The cloak: Denial, delusion, and blame.

Principals on the pathway to freedom.

- Learn and embrace your new identity and heart in Christ. (Listen to Mike Minters message again from the Saturday AllMens meeting or others which expand on this.
- Break the denial structure by acknowledging your problem to the group
- Understand the bondage cycle and specifically your pattern of falling.
- Addressing the likely wounds that contribute to the root problem.

IV Week 2 Mission.

- Begin memorizing 1 Corinthians 6:13-20
- Prepare against the common times and places of your temptation.

According to neuroscience, 10 percent of your brain works when you're awake, and 90 percent works when you are not. Your brain cleans itself out when you sleep, pruning old neural connections that aren't being used. So if your not dabbling watching wrong images and videos, your brain will start to prune what was associated with porn. Therefore mediate on scripture just before bed because scripture has the power to physically restructure our brain.

"Don't be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."