

# Lesson 15:

## Church - Providing Help

*“What so many churches have done is to make this person a poster child, i.e., give their testimony, teach classes, help others, and the problem is they are wounded and sick and need to go through a healing process before they can help anyone else.”*

*Jim Galyan*

### **Churches Must Provide Leadership**

The question of whether pornography is prevalent in the church has long been answered. Study after study shows that at least 25% and typically closer to 50% of Christian men regularly view pornography.

The issues that result are numerous; stagnate church growth, lack of leadership, divorce, financial problems and sexual abuse, to name but a few. Yet, pornography and sexual addiction are rarely mentioned in an assembly. Even more rare is a church that has an organized, consistent, and effective plan to help those struggling.

Consider your congregation. How many prayer requests involve sexual issues? How many men and women are open about their struggles with pornography, affairs, compulsive masturbation, or lust? How often are women/teens specifically asked to wear something more appropriate and modest? How many sermons and classes directly confront sexual sin and sexual addiction?

How many congregations facilitate a recovery group for sexual addiction? How many congregations provide counseling with qualified therapists for those who are caught up in sexual addiction? Honest answers to these questions will show the current level of understanding and involvement of your church family in providing help and hope for the members caught in the web of pornography and sexual addiction.

**Freedom from sexual addiction is possible.**

**The church's role is vital.**

Satan would have you believe otherwise. Satan works through deceit, secrets, and avoidance with the hope that the truth about sexual addiction among Christians will remain in the closet. Jesus said, “The truth will set you free.” Is your congregation ready to be set free?

**Pornography  
and sexual  
addiction are  
rarely  
mentioned in  
an assembly.**

***Is your  
congregation  
ready to be  
set free?***



1. What type of follow up happens currently after someone confesses to struggling with pornography or “sexual sin” in your congregation?

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2. How much information does someone in your church leadership typically gather when someone discloses struggling with sex addiction?

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3. Why do you believe more people do not ask for prayers and help for sexual addiction at your congregation?

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4. Would you say your congregation has a more “rule based” attitude or “relationship based” attitude? Explain.

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5. What do you believe the church’s role is in providing help for its members struggling with sex addiction?



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6. Does your congregation have any members who are qualified therapists?

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7. Does your congregation provide financial help for members needing professional counseling?

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8. What organized help does your congregation currently provide for those struggling specifically with pornography and sex addiction?

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9. Are there currently organized accountability groups for sexual addiction at your congregation? Why or why not?

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10. What expectation do you have for someone struggling with sex addiction after they disclose their issue?



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11. What expectation does your church leadership have for someone struggling with sex addiction after they disclose their issue?

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12. How can your church get the message across that you love the addict without enabling or excusing the behavior?

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13. What support for the spouse and family of sexual addicts is your congregation currently providing?

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14. What help is your congregation specifically providing for female sex addicts?

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15. Do you believe your congregation is ready to begin providing more help to its members who are struggling?

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**16. Homework: Meet with your church leadership about bringing a representative to your church from the Center for Christian Broadcasting (or another knowledgeable organization) to help in assessing the specific needs of your congregation.**

