

Lesson 17:

Talking With Kids

*“The first time they ever saw a pin up or the first time they ever had a sexual experience...
... ‘It lit up my light. It was like the cocaine of choice. I mean, that was it.’”*

Eli Machen

The Parent’s Responsibility

Most parents are familiar with the term “gateway drug” which typically refers to chemicals like marijuana or alcohol. The idea is that if children start abusing these substances...

...the door is opened to more destructive, harmful drugs.

Unfortunately, this concept typically minimizes the negative impact of pot and alcohol due to social acceptance.

Pot and alcohol are, in fact, at the top of the list of substances bringing about the most damage in society. However, the single most overlooked activity as to the potential for addiction and harmful effects it brings to the consumer, is pornography.

Pornography, by and large, is not being talked about. But when parents understand that the average age of exposure to pornography today is around age 8, they need to be in active conversation with their children before they reach that age.

The conversation must be honest, age appropriate, and on going. It should also involve the good, God blessed, aspects of sexuality. God’s plan is for married couples to have the best sex in the world, but the way Satan distorts and changes God’s plan is very deceptive. So often, if sex is addressed at all, it’s only the negative side being discussed.

Our children will learn about sex and pornography from someone.

Are you willing to let their education come through experience, happenstance, or from their peers on the playground?

Or are you taking the necessary steps to insure they are receiving an accurate, healthy, God blessed understanding of sex? Such discussions must include information about the harmful effects of pornography.

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Such discussions must include information about the harmful effects of pornography.

1. How did your parents handle educating you about sex and pornography?

2. Were your conversations with your parents sufficient to provide you with the information and safety you needed?

3. Was the topic of pornography and sex avoided in your house? Why or why not?

4. What were the unspoken messages about pornography and sex you received from your parents?

5. Was there a negative or positive spin to the information about sex you were provided by your parents?

6. What conversations about sex and pornography were had at your church when you were a child?

7. From what source did you receive most of your information about pornography and sex when growing up?

8. Have you already begun having conversations with your children about pornography and sex? Why or why not?

9. Are you uncomfortable speaking with your children about pornography and sex? Explain.

10. What fears do you have in talking to your children about pornography and sex?

11. What fears do you have if you don't talk to your children about pornography and sex?

12. What are your thoughts on disclosing to your children your own involvement with pornography?

13. What from your past experiences do you believe would benefit your children to know? Explain.

14. What from your past experiences do you believe would harm your children to know? Explain.

15. What role has fear or shame played in not talking with your children more directly about pornography and sex?

16. What unspoken messages about sex are you sending your children?

17. What do you say or do when sexual content or comments appear in a TV show that your child is watching?

18. How much time does your child spend in passive entertainment (watching TV, playing video games, etc.)? Exactly, what are they watching?

19. How do your children typically deal with boredom, stress, fear or sadness?

20. Are you and your spouse on the same page when it comes to parenting? Explain.

21. Are you and your spouse in agreement with how to discuss pornography and sex with your children? Explain.

22. Have you prepared your children for times when they might encounter pornography at places other than your home? Explain.

23. Do you believe your children are comfortable coming to you with questions about sex? Why or why not?

24. Do you believe your children would tell you if they have viewed pornography? Why or why not?

25. How would you respond to your children if you discovered they had viewed pornography?.
