FELLOWSHIP AND ENTERTAINMENT

Session 7

Let's Pray

The verses in this lesson describe how You want us to live, Lord. Help us to be inspired to make You proud of the way we live and act.

As we go through these scriptures choose one that really "speaks" to you and write it on a slip paper.

At the end of this session you can put this "scripture slip" in your wallet or purse and use it to help you remember what this "step" is in learning to walk with Christ.

Psalms 24:3-4

The Bible tells us that we must be pure to be in God's places. None of us can accomplish such purity on our own. Acceptance of Jesus as savior is the only way we can be pure.

1 Corinthians 6:20

By allowing Jesus to be crucified on the cross, God truly paid a high price for us. We are then obligated to honor that high price by keeping our bodies in a way that honors God. We have to be careful of the places we take our bodies and the things we put in and on our bodies if we plan to honor God with them.

Hebrews 10:22

Jesus cleaned us initially and will cleanse us of our daily sins as we ask Him to but there is a need for sincerity behind our desire for our hearts to be clean. 2 Peter 3: 1, 14

Wholesome thinking and diligent efforts are required if we truly wish to be pure and blameless in the sight of God.

Maintaining purity also requires us to carefully choose those with whom we spend our time.

Psalms 101:4-7; 133:1-3

Verses 4-7 help us know the kinds of people to avoid and the kind to choose to be around.

Verses 1-3 tell us that we are to choose to live in harmony. If your former friends cause unrest, you may need new ones. Witnessing to those who knew us B. C. (before Christ) will not be easy and will probably require you to mature somewhat in your Christian walk before you try it.

Luke 6:22-23

These verses tell us that if others treat us badly because we are Christians, to consider that a good thing it means we are doing things well.

Acts 2:42-43

When we fellowship with other believers Christ can be present also and His blessing on our gathering may result in good things happening.

1 Corinthians 1: 9; 15:33-34

Verse 9 tells us that we are invited into fellowship with Christ. We can't be in fellowship with Christ at the same time we are in fellowship with those who are living sin filled lives.

Verses 33-34 Cautions us about the company we keep.

Philippians 2:1-2; 3:10

Verses 1-2 tell us to have one mind and purpose. This is easier when we are with others who share goals and attitudes that are in agreement with our own.

Verse 10 indicates that we can really know Christ and that we should want this closeness even in suffering.

1 John 1:3, 7

Verse 3 tells us that sharing the things that Christ has done for us is a basis for fellowship with each other.

Verse 7 tells us that living in the light (in truth and openness) allows us to have fellowship with each other.

Not only do we choose to live in purity and spend our time in the company of others who desire the same thing, we have to carefully choose our entertainment.

Ecclesiastes 8:15

These verses tell us that having fun is certainly a good thing to do.

Ephesians 5:3-13, 18-19

Verses 3-13 tell us that it is not just where we go or what we consume that can dishonor God, we also have to be careful what goes into our minds and comes out of our mouths. The saying "Garbage In, Garbage Out" is very true.

Verses 18-19 advise us to spend our time wisely praising God.

These two verses, one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament summarize this lesson.

Proverbs 13:20 and Romans 12:21

Proverbs is a warning about the influence from the company we keep.

Romans encourages us to conquer evil.

One thing we have to know and believe is that God expects us to enjoy life but live righteously.

Those of us who are parents have additional responsibility for our children. It is a serious challenge to monitor the choices our children make in friends and entertainment.

Keep in mind that CD's of music include written copies of the lyrics. Demand to see them and help your children make choices about what they listen to. DVD's have descriptive information about their content, check them out as well.

Contact the parents of your children's friends. Don't take your child's word that their friends parents are okay with an activity—children tell their parents this to get their way. If you make your children angry offer to pray with them about their choices. Choose to make them angry rather than lose them to Satan and his influence. Get your children involved in a church that has a strong youth program. If that means you have to change churches, make the sacrifice for your children.

Everything that we have examined in this session is summarized in the assurance that follows.

Assurance 7:

PURITY IS IMPORTANT TO ME BECAUSE IT IS IMPORTANT TO GOD!

This concludes session 7

Let's pray.

Lord, we come to You as imperfect people with many bad habits and a lot of impure thoughts. Help us to want to please You and to let You be in control of our actions and thoughts.