

WHAT'S A CHRISTIAN TO DO?

TOWARD CHRISTIANS:

Affirm the obedient Christian

Admonish the rebellious Christian

Restore the repentant Christian

Be compassionate toward the struggling Christian

Pray for and encourage one another

TOWARD NON-CHRISTIANS:

Be nice

Enjoy common ground

Practice tolerance without endorsement

Share the Gospel

Be consistent

1 CORINTHIANS 6:19-20

Your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit,
who is in you, whom you have received from God.
You are not your own; you were bought at a price.
Therefore
honor God with your bodies.



On Three Key Make-or-Break Areas of Life

Want to keep life from spinning out of control?
Want to enrich your life and the lives of those around you?
Want to find true success and satisfaction?

We will consider three key areas that can determine success or failure, satisfaction or disappointment, victory or defeat:

MONEY, MORALS, MOUTH



Part 2

Get a Grip on Morals

GET A GRIP ON MORALS

Morals makes the top three make-or-break items in the New Testament because of passages like:

Put to death whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires...

Colossians 3:5

A church must address moral issues to be true to the Scriptures, but a church must be:

- Tasteful
- Relevant
- Gentle

FIVE KEY PASSAGES AND LESSONS ON MORAL PURITY

1. MORAL PURITY STARTS IN OUR HEARTS

Matthew 5:27–28 (NIV) — 27 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ 28 But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

2: MORAL PURITY MAY REQUIRE EXTREME MEASURES

Matthew 5:29–30 (NIV) — 29 If your right eye causes you to stumble, *gouge it out and throw it away*. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to stumble, *cut it off and throw it away*. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

3. MORAL PURITY IS THE WILL OF GOD FOR HIS CHILDREN

1 Thessalonians 4:3–8 (NIV) — 3 *It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality;* 4 that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable, 5 not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God; 6 and that in this matter no one should wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister. The Lord will punish all those who commit such sins, as we told you and warned you before. 7 *For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.* 8 Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.

4. MORAL PURITY IS A COUNTER CULTURE CALL

1 Peter 4:3–5 (NIV) — 3 *You have spent enough time in the past* doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. 4 *They are surprised* that you do not join them in their reckless, wild living, and *they heap abuse on you*. 5 But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.

5. MORAL PURITY IS NOT JUST THOU SHALT NOT

1 Corinthians 7:3–5 (NIV) — 3 *The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband.* 4 The wife does not have authority over her own body but yields it to her husband. In the same way, the husband does not have authority over his own body but yields it to his wife. 5 Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.