

The Steps Down to the Pit of Immorality

Countless thousands of our fellow Christians are being caught in the web of immorality and are being eaten alive by the wickedness of sin. How then does this happen? For most, it does not happen overnight. It is very much a degenerating process, a slippery slope to moral defeat. What are practical steps Christians can take to deal with temptation? How can they address problems before they become more serious?

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Introduction:

I. A definition of immorality

Immorality is any thought or action that violates God's intended design for our sexuality.

II. The Process of Seduction: The steps down to the pit

1. We are deceived by our own flesh - with its natural bent toward sin.
2. We are deceived by the world - with its twisted values.
3. We are deceived by the devil - with his specific plan to oppose anything godly.

Step #1 - Faltering In the Search for Biblical Wisdom

- Meditate on God's Word daily (cf. Josh. 1:8; Ps. 119:9-11; Ps. 1; 2 Tim. 3:15-16)
- Pray to him faithfully (Matt 6:9-13; Jn 14:13-14; 1 Thess. 5:17; 1 Jn. 5:14-15)
- Take your spiritual pulse regularly

Step #2 - Failing in The Development Of The Marriage Relationship

Step #3 - Fantasizing in the Arena of the Mind

Step #4 - Flirting with Those of the Opposite Sex

1. We develop a wandering eye (Prov. 6:25)
2. We develop a careless lifestyle (Prov. 7:7-8)

Step #5 - Falling into the Trap of Immorality

The Specific Results of Immorality:

- Guilt and unclear conscience (Prov. 5:12-13)
- Loss of honor and public disgrace (Prov. 5:14; 6:33)
- Loss of money and possible poverty (Proverbs 5:10; 6:26)
- Entrapment into habitual sin (Proverbs 2:19; 5:22-23; 7:6-10; 23:27-28; cf. Rom. 6:19; Heb. 3:13)
- Venereal disease (Proverbs 5:7-11; cf. Psalm 38:1-8,11)
- Wounds inflicted by an angry spouse (Proverbs 6:33-35)
- Physical death (Proverbs 5:9; 6:32; cf. 1 Corinthians 5:5; 11:30; 1 John 5:16)
- Devastating spiritual effects (Proverbs 7:27; 6:32)

Concluding Challenge: