

## Sexual Harassment-A Biblical Approach

### Lesson 4

#### Drunkenness and Sexual Immorality

Many times sexual harassment and sexual abuse occurs when alcohol or drugs is involved. So if a person follows the Bible guidelines in regards to intoxication and drunkenness there is a less likely chance they are going to say or do things that would be seen as sexual harassment or as sexual abuse. A person is also less likely to be a victim if they are not getting intoxicated.

The Bible is very clear in regards to its stand against fornication (illicit sex) and adultery. So it only makes sense that if single people refused to participate in fornication and married people refused to participate in adultery, there would be much less sexual harassment and sexual abuse going on.

God gives us guidelines to protect us and others. If the world followed the wise principles of the Bible sexual harassment and sexual abuse would not be one of the number one topics in the news today.

#### Intoxication and Drunkenness

The Bible makes it clear that getting drunk is wrong-sin. But it also makes it clear that being around the drinking of alcohol is also not wise. And of course, these principles would also apply with drugs.

Proverbs 20:1

*Wine produces mockers; alcohol leads to brawls. Those led astray by drink cannot be wise.*

Even after just a few drinks a person starts to lose self-control, lose good judgment. They certainly become more likely to have the potential for being a person who sexually harasses or potentially gives the impression they are more open to sexual comments.

Romans 13:13-14

<sup>13</sup> *Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy.*

<sup>14</sup> *But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.*

Take note that carousing (partying) and drunkenness or combined together. Also take note that carousing and drunkenness are combined with sexual promiscuity. Why? Because they normally go together.

Ephesians 5:18

*Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit,*  
The Bible could not be any clearer in stating to not get drunk.

1 Peter 4:3-5

<sup>3</sup> *You have had enough in the past of the evil things that godless people enjoy—their immorality and lust, their feasting and drunkenness and wild parties, and their terrible worship of idols.*

<sup>4</sup> *Of course, your former friends are surprised when you no longer plunge into the flood of wild*

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*and destructive things they do. So they slander you.*

<sup>5</sup> *But remember that they will have to face God, who will judge everyone, both the living and the dead.*

It should be clear that as Christians we do not participate in evil behavior which includes immorality and lust, drunkenness, wild parties, the worshipping of anything other than God. Thus a Christian should not be in any kind of environment that promotes sexual harassment or sexual abuse.

### Conclusion

If you don't want to be a perpetrator or victim of sexual harassment and sexual abuse, still away from alcohol and drugs. Abstinence is the best policy. No potential of making poor judgments because of a substance in your body.

### Sexual Immorality

The Bible is blatantly clear that as Christians we should not participate in fornication (illicit sex, all forms of sex outside of marriage) or in adultery (sex as a married person or with a married person.) Thus there absolutely should never be sexual harassment or sexual abuse among Christians.

### Adultery

Matthew 5:27-28

<sup>27</sup> *"You have heard that it was said, Do not commit adultery.*

<sup>28</sup> *But I tell you, everyone who looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.*

Jesus made it clear that even lusting after a person is adultery. God has a high standard that if honored keeps individuals safe from any appearance of sexual harassment or sexual abuse.

Hebrews 13:4

*Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.*

Husbands and wives who entertain making sexual comments or sexual advances with someone than their spouse is committing adultery. A sexual act does not need to occur for adultery to occur. A spouse viewing pornography is committing adultery.

### Fornication

Ephesians 5:3-5

<sup>3</sup> *But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints;*

<sup>4</sup> *and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.*

<sup>5</sup> *For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is*

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*an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.*

Fornication, sex outside marriage, is certainly immorality and impurity.

It is clear that a Christian is not to making sexual innuendos or comments.

It is also clear that a person who lives a lifestyle of being immoral, impure, covetous, or an idolater are not going to heaven. Those who are actively manifesting the behavior of sexual harassment and sexual abuse risk the potential of eternal destruction.

1 Corinthians 6:18-20

<sup>18</sup> *Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.*

<sup>19</sup> *Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?*

<sup>20</sup> *For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.*

We are flee from any type of immorality including fornication. Flee means runs from, not be a part of it.

A person who 'hangs around' such behavior may very well become a victim of such behavior. A man or woman who thinks it is okay to have sex outside of marriage, to have friends who are sexually active outside of marriage, are more likely to become a victim of sexual harassment or sexual abuse. You should be fleeing.

### **Ultimate Punishment-Hell**

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

<sup>9</sup> Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

<sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor *the* covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>11</sup> Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

It is much different to struggle with something than to turn yourself over to it. Those who practice these things, it is their lifestyle, it is their way of life, it is their identity, are going to hell regardless if they call themselves a Christian or not.

Matthew 7:23

<sup>23</sup> *"And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'*

### **Galatians 5:19-21 (NASB)**

<sup>19</sup> Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,

<sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,

<sup>21</sup> envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

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