DEALING WITH BARRIERS TO GODLY LEADERSHIP
Sexual Pressures

Reflective Questions

As we think about sexuality, what are we thankful to God for?

Where do you find refuge?

What comes into your mind when you hear the phrase 'sexual pressures in leadership'?

Take a few minutes to jot down any areas you know you struggle with sexually. (This is not for sharing with anyone else... but to avoid the danger of considering this material with other people in mind, we'd like you to be specific about yourself.)

What do you imagine might be the temptations and downfall for your particular dark side? What areas of sexual sin might it lead you into?

Key Insights

The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, **in whom I take refuge**, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Psalms 18:2

So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

1 CORINTHIANS 10:12-13

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Guarding Our Hearts and Minds

A person may think their own ways are right, but the Lord weighs the heart.
PROVERBS 21:2

- Stay close to God.
- Grow in self-awareness.
- Practice immediacy.
- Keep strong boundaries.
- Be transparent.
- Invest in good and godly relationships.
- When we fall.....

What might be the danger signs for you in this area and what do you particularly need to do to keep yourself safe?

In the light of what you've heard is there anything you want to add or remember?

Key Insights

'I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do – this I keep on doing... I delight in God's law, but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner. What a wretched man I am!'
Romans 7:19-24

'We need a variety of friends because no one human being can give us all that we hope for.'
Henri Nouwen.

'In you, Lord my God, I put my trust... No one who hopes in you will ever be put to shame. Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in you all day long.'
Psalm 25:1-4

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SOME BIBLICAL INJUNCTIONS

Exodus 20.14	You shall not commit adultery.
Proverbs 5.7	Run from sexual temptation.
Matthew 5.28	Do not look lustfully.
2 Timothy 2. 22	Flee youthful lusts.
Colossians 3.5	Put to death... sexual immorality.
1 Corinthians 6.18	Flee from sexual immorality.
1 Thessalonians 4.13	Avoid sexual immorality... control your own body.
Ephesians 5.3	Let there be no hint of sexual immorality.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLE (DAVID AND BATHSHEBA, 2 SAMUEL 11)

- He should have been at war (work).
- He was struggling in his marriage.
- He was idle and frustrated.
- He looked... and went on looking.
- He wanted something to meet his own need.
- He covered it up with deceit.

Key Insights

ADDITIONAL WEBSITE MATERIAL

- Darkside Book Summary.
- Perspectives on sexuality and Godly leadership.
- Sexual pressure women's perspective.
- Shame on you.