

PORNOGRAPHY - IDENTIFYING THE ROOT ISSUES

INTRODUCTION

One of the biggest challenges to fighting pornography is the difficulty in identifying the root issue of the sin. So often we look at pornography not because we just want to look at a naked body, though we sometimes do, but rather because of deeper unidentified desires. Most people would agree that they have often looked at pornography when they are stressed. This clues us in to the reality that there is often another motive for our looking at pornography. To help us address this reality, we are going to read an excerpt from Tim Chester's book *Closing the Window*. What this chapter is going to do is help surface those deeper sins. In fact it is almost scary how well Chester has identified what is going on in our minds and hearts when we are looking at pornography. You will find he is able to identify why you look at pornography, what is going on in your head when you look at pornography, and possibly what kind of pornography you look at! He can leave you with an almost creepy feeling that he is in your head. But having someone help us get into our own heads and help us understand our hearts is possibly one of the most helpful exercises we can engage in.

DISCUSSION

Read all of chapter 2. As you read underline what stands out to you so we can discuss it. As you move through the chapter you will come to the heart of the chapter on page 45. Here Chester has identified the top 6 false promises of pornography and how the Gospel speaks to each. Be thinking about which of the 6 false promises you are most identify with.

Section 1 (37-45)

What stood out to you from the first section (pages 37-45)? [Let them share. Be sure to share openly the things that are most convicting to you.]

Section 2 (45-59)

Of the 6 false promises that pornography makes (Respect, Relationship, Refuge, Reward, Revenge, Redemption), which do you identify with most?
What stood out to you about the Gospel promises?

Section 3 (59-65)

What does Chester suggest is the chief desire that lies beneath all the previously listed false promises? [The desire to be worshiped] How do you identify with this?
What is our role and what is the ultimate solution to pornography? [Here you can have a discussion about the roles of faith and repentance. You should make sure they discuss the role of Christ's supremacy as a better object of our worship.]

PRAY

I finish giving them some time to break into groups to pray.