



## Why is porn so destructive?

- Kids are seeing their first pornographic image between 6–8 years old.
  - More often than not this is accidental.
  - When kids see the image, they're brains don't understand what they're seeing, so it creates fear and physical excitement simultaneously.
  - The brain is impressionable at this age, so it can connect the two to the point where it thinks fear is necessary for arousal, which can lead kids to seek depraved material.
- Out of the top 10 most used sites on the internet, 3 are pornographic.
  - 1 out of 10 people who visit porn sites are under the age of 10.

## What does the Bible say about porn?

- The Bible doesn't use the term *porn*.
  - We can look at what God's intention is for sex.
  - Sex is meant to be between man and wife to please the other person.
  - Sex is a community action: husband, wife, God.
- Porn cheapens this.
  - Porn is solitary and self-pleasing.
  - There are plenty of cases of people carrying pornography into their marriage and it having destructive results.

- Porn can also create false expectations of how the partner should perform, which creates conflict in the relationship.
- What verses can we reference?
  - *But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.* Matthew 5:28 (NLT)
    1. The people in pornographic videos aren't the husbands and wives of the people watching.
    2. People who watch porn are guilty of what Jesus says here:
 

*"I made a covenant with my eye not to look with lust at a young woman..* Job 31:1 (NLT)
    3. It's a good practice to start now whether you're married or not.
    4. The people on screen are real people with real problems and real lives.
    5. Pray for the person on screen because they're obviously in a dark place.
- When people look at pornography, they're directly or indirectly supporting sex trafficking.
  - Sex trafficking – people are sold for a price.
    1. In videos we don't know if people in the video are performing willingly.
    2. Many of these videos can be violent.

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## What do we do about pornography?

- If you want to help your kid avoid pornography:
  - Have the conversation
    1. What have you seen?
    2. Talk with them at an age-appropriate level.
  - As a parent, break the ice.
    1. It's awkward, but it's better if you do it.
    2. Do it before someone else (or Google) does without you knowing.
  - If they have seen pornographic images, stay calm.
    1. If you freak out their walls will go up and they won't be open.
    2. Walk through what they've seen, why it's bad for them and why they should avoid seeing those again.
  - If they haven't seen anything yet:
    1. Tell them what kinds of things they should avoid. (Don't be too graphic, but don't be so vague that they won't understand.)
    2. Tell them what God wants for them.
- If you caught your kid looking at pornography:
  - If you freaked out:
    1. Apologize for freaking out.
    2. You need to be a safe place for them to talk.
    3. Pick up the conversation again and tell them calmly why watching it is inappropriate.
  - Ask them, *Why are you watching this content?*
    1. Watching pornography isn't the deeper issue.
    2. It's still wrong and needs to be corrected, but they're fulfilling a need in a destructive way.
    3. Get them to think about why they're doing what they're doing.
  - Find out if they're willing to change. This will help you know how extreme your steps need to be.
    1. Have preventative software in your home and on your devices. This helps, but if your kid doesn't want to change they'll probably get around it.
    2. You may have to take extreme steps:
      - No smart phone.
      - No computer.
      - If they have a computer for school, you sit with them while they use it.

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## Tips for helping students (or yourself) conquer a pornographic addiction.

- Bring God into it.
  - We can't *do better*, God has to be part of it.
  - Use scripture as a reminder of God's will.
 

*Oh, don't worry; we wouldn't dare say that we are as wonderful as these other men who tell you how important they are! But they are only comparing themselves with each other, using themselves as the standard of measurement. How ignorant!*

*We will not boast about things done outside our area of authority. We will boast only about what has happened within the boundaries of the work God has given us, which includes our working with you.*

2 Corinthians 10:12-13 (NLT)
  - Something is missing in the person's heart, and only God can fill it. Instead they're filling it with something destructive.
- Starve the beast. Take away any and all ways students can view porn.
  - No computers or devices.
  - No movies with sex or nudity.
  - No underwear ads.
  - People go to extreme lengths to satisfy the urge, so think outside the box when getting this stuff out of the house.

- What do I do if the student fails?
  - Conquering the sin is, more often than not, a process.
  - We need to forgive, but be firm with accountability.
  - They may stumble, but work with them to make stumbling less and less frequent to where they eventually have victory over it.

## What can you say?

- *I care about you.*
- *I'm praying for you.*
- *This situation is not too big for God.*
- *You're not alone.*
- *God is with you and so am I.*
  - Walk alongside the student in the healing process.

## RESOURCES

- Fight the New Drug • [fightthenewdrug.org](http://fightthenewdrug.org)