

SESSION 2

A Common Struggle, Part 2



THE POWER OF PURSUING ENERGY

REVIEW

The first key is _____.

The second key is _____.

The decision to be pure is made based on a prior decision to live under the authority of King Jesus and a decision to pursue integrity in my inmost being.

The third key is _____.

God created us to _____ — we cannot deny the need for intimacy in our lives any more than we can deny our need for _____.

MARRIAGE

Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.”

— Genesis 2:18

Intimacy with your wife is based on your _____ of her.

“At last!” the man exclaimed. “This one is bone from my bone, and flesh from my flesh! She will be called ‘woman,’ because she was taken from ‘man.’” This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one. Now the man and his wife were both naked, but they felt no shame.

— Genesis 2:23-25

Intimacy with your wife will grow as you _____ in her.

Intimacy with your wife will thrive as you love her _____.

SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP

So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God’s holy people. You are members of God’s family. Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. Through him you Gentiles are also being made part of this dwelling where God lives by his Spirit.

— Ephesians 2:19-22

Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

— Ephesians 4:15-16

If I'm not pursuing intimacy in the _____ that God has created for me, then I will be more _____ to the counterfeit intimacy offered by _____.

The fourth key is _____.

Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters. Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. You must warn each other every day, while it is still "today," so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God. For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ.

— Hebrews 3:12-14

THREE TRUTHS ABOUT ACCOUNTABILITY

1. Accountability begins with a personal commitment to guard our own hearts – someone else can't do it for me.
2. Accountability requires _____ and _____ (intimacy).
3. Accountability is necessary if we want to _____ – we can't do it alone.

Discussion Questions

1. Are you pursuing intimacy in the pathways that God has provided for you?
2. What are some of the obstacles that keep you from building intimacy in relationships (wife, friends)?
3. Do you have a difficult time depending on someone else? Why or why not?
4. Is the idea of accountability intimidating to you? Why or why not?
5. What are three practical steps you could take toward intimacy and accountability?