

## **Poisonous Passions**

*Conquering the negative passions that can sabotage one's life*

“Lust: The Danger of Unbridled Sexual Desire  
1 Thessalonians 4:3-5

“It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; <sup>4</sup> that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, <sup>5</sup> not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God”

NIV **1 Thessalonians 4:3-5**

1. True intimacy begins with one's relationship to God.
  - “It is God's will that you should be sanctified”
  - God's matchless love (Jeremiah 31:3)
  - Our compromised spiritual intimacy (James 4:4)
  
2. True intimacy requires watchfulness to steer clear of any potentially compromising sexual situations.
  - “It is God's will . . . that you should avoid sexual immorality”
  - The forgotten discipline (Mark 14:38)
  - Situational compromise (1 Thess. 5:22 “Avoid every kind [form, sight, appearance] of evil”)
  
3. True intimacy requires discipline and sacrifice to govern the desires of the body and soul.
  - “It is God's will . . . that you should learn to control your body”
  - Illicit affairs begin emotionally and mentally not physically and sexually (Matthew 5:27-28)
  - Dancing with the Devil (Psalm 101:2-3)
  - Pornographic statistics
    - \$3,075.64 spent every second
    - 28,258 internet users every second
    - \$97.06 billion spent in 2006
  
4. True intimacy requires the miraculous impact of God's amazing and undeserved grace.
  - “not . . . like the heathen who do not know God”
  - The prayer of a sexually compromised person (Psalm 51:10)