

WORSHIP *SCHEDULE*

9:00 AM

Song Leader:
Brandon Ayers

Scripture Reading:
Nate Durham
Nahum 1:1-5

Prayer:
Andrew Durham

Lesson:
Stacey Durham

Title:
The Fall of Nineveh

Closing Prayer:
Louis Long

Wednesday, March 31

Song Leader:
Nate Durham

Invitation:
Alex Bansemer

Prayer:
Chevis Webb

Lord's Supper Preparation
March: Wright/Huffines
April: Duryea

11:00 AM

Song Leader:
Alex Bansemer

Scripture Reading:
Thom Steger
Galatians 3:26-29

Prayer:
Bill Duryea

Lord's Supper:
Ron Hunt
Kevin Hayes

Lesson:
Stacey Durham

Title:
Unity in Jesus

Announcements:
Ron Dixon

Closing Prayer:
Jim Barton

Usher for This Week:
David Bansemer

Creekview *BULLETIN*

We Shall Be Changed

For His kingdom, God will give the saved in Christ new, spiritual bodies. "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed" (1Cor. 15:52). Thank God for this blessed hope of eternal life.

To Our Visitors

We are delighted to see you in our midst today. Thank you for joining us on this blessed day to offer worship, praise, and thanksgiving to our Father in heaven. May God bless you and your family.

MARCH

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SERVICE TIMES

SUNDAYS:

WORSHIP: 9:00 AM
BIBLE STUDY: 10:00 AM
WORSHIP: 11:00 AM

WEDNESDAYS:

BIBLE STUDY: 7:00 PM

It is Not Okay to Look

People who view pornography often justify their conduct by discounting the harm it causes. After all, they are just looking, so what real harm is there?

In truth, the harm caused by pornography is immeasurable. It begins with the production of pornography. Obviously, those who are filmed and photographed are guilty of immorality, but there is even more behind the scenes. The industry of pornography is awash in drug addiction, violence, crime, and even human trafficking. Its producers coax desperate people to perform for money, drugs, and alcohol, and addictions are fed to keep performers trapped. Viewers of pornography contribute to this evil industry because they create the demand for the product. If there were no viewers of pornography, it would cease to exist. So then, the guilt of pornography's harm is shared by everyone who touches it.

Personally, viewing pornography is virtually (i.e., in terms of virtue) the same as committing adultery. This is according to the words of the Lord Jesus in Matthew 5:27-29:

²⁷"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery';
²⁸but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell."

The principle of this teaching is the same whether a man looks at a woman in person or via photos and videos. In his heart, indulgence of the lust of the eyes is equivalent to adultery because it is the first step in a process that can lead to the actual commission of adultery. The same application could be made to fornication or other sexual sins. The Lord's solution for this is radical but not literal. He is not recommending the actual gouging out of an eye, for the problem is not physical such that the removal of an eye could help. His point is that the safety of one's soul is worth more than even the ability to see. In Matthew 18:9, He said, "It is better for you to enter life with one eye, than to have two eyes and be cast into the fiery hell."

The soul-corrupting potential of pornography has been made evident by its real-life results. Viewers often become obsessed with pornography, for studies have shown that it affects the brain in a similar way to tobacco, alcohol, and drugs. Furthermore, the process that begins with lustful looking often does lead to actual adultery and fornication, just as the Scriptures warn (2Sam. 11:2-4; Job 3:1, 9-11). Consequently, marriages and families are destroyed.

A recent event illustrates the depths of depravity that can be initiated by pornography. On March 16, eight people were shot to death at three massage parlors in Atlanta. Some news reporters and politicians have tried

to spin these murders as acts of racism, but the culprit was not motivated by the races of his victims. He was a self-described sex addict who saw these massage parlors as temptations he needed to eliminate. His addiction stemmed from his consumption of pornography, which was so obsessive and corrosive that his own parents kicked him out of their house shortly before he committed the murders. This example is extreme but not isolated. The notorious serial killer Ted Bundy admitted to being so obsessed with pornography that it led him to violence. On the day before his execution, he gave an interview in which he said that he had met many violent felons in prison, and every one of them had been obsessed with pornography.

This is not intended to imply that everyone who views pornography will become a violent offender or even a literal adulterer or fornicator. The point is to impart the seriousness of pornography and the real harm that it causes. It is also to provoke a sense of disgust and a repulsive reaction to even the idea of pornography. Indeed, no one should take it lightly. It is not okay just to look.

Stacey E. Durham

ELDERS:

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news & notes

- Ron Dixon will have cataract surgery on Wednesday. Please pray for him.
- The new quarter for children's classes begins next week. Teachers, please be prepared.
- Also remember the following members in your prayers: Barbara Atkins, Jeri Baker, Sarah Brown, Kay Cook, Donella Jones, Kay Lanus, Pat Ridings, and Shirley Smith. Also remember Jody Baize, Mishae Nevils, Wayne Wright, and Dot Long's sister Melissa.

reading plan

Sunday - 1Corinthians 9-10
Monday - Genesis 48-50
Tuesday - 1Samuel 11-15
Wednesday - Psalms 36-38
Thursday - Job 25-26
Friday - Jeremiah 1-6
Saturday - Mark 5-6

meetings

None to announce