Navigating Sexual Issues with Gospel-Centered Truth

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KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Ministering on sexual issues may be less about reading the right book or even going through a course like this one. What's really central is having the heart of Jesus. People don't need our opinions and efforts... they need Jesus. We aim to become servants who are full of both grace and truth as Jesus was.
- Humility is perhaps the most important character quality of Jesus during His ministry on earth. In Philippians 2, Christians are encouraged to have the mindset of humility that Jesus modeled for us.
- Our humility before God keeps us grounded in His truth. Jesus showed us how to do this by not grasping for equality with the Father and emptying Himself in obedience to the work of the Father.
- Humility before God is artificial if it doesn't impact our humility toward one another. Paul defines this humility as letting go of selfish ambition and vain conceit, not considering ourselves as better than others, and serving the interests of others.
- Perhaps the greatest barrier to ministering effectively on sexuality is pride... pride toward God and pride in our interactions with each other. Humility ushers in the power of God. Our job is to present ourselves as vessels surrendered to the truth and work of Christ.



NOTES



NOTES CONTINUED



REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

Do you agree with this quote from Andrew Murray: "Humility is the only soil in which the graces root; the lack of humility is the sufficient explanation for every defect and failure. Humility is not so much a grace or virtue along with others; it is the root of all, because it alone takes the right attitude before God, and allows him as God to do all." Why or why not?

2 How have you seen the lack of humility compromise the Church's ability to sexually disciple?



3 Read Mark 8:31-38. Describe Peter's pride in this interaction. How did he make himself equal with God? What was Jesus' response?



In what ways do you subtly consider yourself equal with God?

5 What are some ways that you approach ministry with "selfish ambition and vain conceit"?



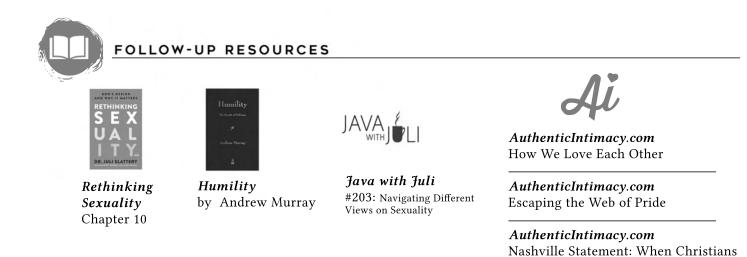
REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

Regarding sexual issues, how do you approach ministry "considering yourself as better than others"? What would it look like to change that approach?



APPLICATION

I Peter 5 tells us to clothe ourselves with humility. Go through one day with the conscious awareness of being "clothed in humility" in all of your interactions. Record what God showed your through this experiment:



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