

Flee Immorality (Sexual Immorality, Fornication)

In contrast to our society, Christians are to flee fornication and glorify God

Introduction

- Fornication (sexual relations outside of Scriptural marriage) is common in our society
- Fornication is viewed as normal and natural behavior that is not sinful
- Many types of fornication have been legalized such as homosexuality and same sex “marriage”
- Despite society’s approval, God warns Christians to flee fornication

2

Introduction

- In order to do this, we must turn to God by becoming a Christian and living according to His gospel
- Society denies the earthly consequences of fornication that involves spread of disease and destruction of families
- Unless we turn from it, the greatest consequence of God’s eternal wrath will come upon us
- With God’s help, we can flee fornication

3

What Is Fornication?

porneia

1) illicit sexual intercourse

1a) adultery, fornication, homosexuality, lesbianism, intercourse with animals etc.

1b) sexual intercourse with close relatives; Lev. 18

1c) sexual intercourse with a divorced man or woman; Mar 10:11, Mar 10:12

4

What Is Fornication?

- 2) metaphorically the worship of idols
2a) of the defilement of idolatry, as incurred by eating the sacrifices offered to idols

From Thayer’s Greek Definitions

5

What Is Fornication?

- Porneia translated fornication in KJV and ASV
- Often translated sexual immorality in NKJV
- Translated sexual immorality, immorality, immoralities, unchastity, fornication and fornications in NASB
- General term inclusive of all sexual sins, all sexual relations outside of lawful Scriptural marriage

6

Some Specific Types of Fornication

1. Adultery
2. Incest
3. Bestiality (sexual relations with animals)
4. Homosexuality
5. Premarital sexual relations
6. Men and women fornicating together not Scripturally married
7. Unscriptural marriages that God calls adultery

7

How Does Society View Fornication?

- Society says our bodies belong to us and fornication is normal and natural
- This is nothing new because in Corinth, the home of the Temple of Venus, there were 1000 “religious” prostitutes ready to engage in fornication as a sacred act
- Today, our schools, mass media, government, many churches and society promote all types of fornication

8

Examples of Types of Fornication Approved By Our Society

1. Rampant premarital sexual relations
2. Adultery leading to broken homes and many unscriptural divorces resulting in marriages God calls adultery
3. Pornography
4. Prostitution and sex slavery
5. Homosexuality

9

How Does God View Fornication?

1Co 6:18 Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.

1Co 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

1Co 6:20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

10

How Does God View Fornication?

1Th 4:3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality;

1Th 4:4 that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

1Th 4:5 not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;

11

How Does God View Fornication?

Heb 13:4 Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

The only honorable way God has given for a man and woman to engage in sexual relations is in Scriptural marriage

12

Corrupts Our Thinking And Character

Mar 7:20 And He was saying, "That which proceeds out of the man, that is what defiles the man.

Mar 7:21 "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries,

13

Corrupts Our Thinking And Character

Mar 7:22 deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness.

Mar 7:23 "All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man."

14

Enslaves Us

Joh 8:31 So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine;

Joh 8:32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

15

Enslaves Us

Joh 8:33 They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never yet been enslaved to anyone; how is it that You say, 'You will become free'?"

Joh 8:34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin.

16

Destroys Our Bodies

Rom 1:22 Professing to be wise, they became fools,

Rom 1:23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

Rom 1:24 Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them.

17

Destroys Our Bodies

Rom 1:25 For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

Rom 1:26 For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural,

18

Destroys Our Bodies

Rom 1:27 and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

19

Destroys Our Bodies

1Co 6:18 Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body, but the immoral man sins against his own body.

20

Destroys Our Bodies

- Spread of both bacterial and viral STDs (sexually transmitted diseases)
- Some of these like AIDS are incurable
- Idea of "safe" sex is a lie which endangers our physical and spiritual health

21

Separates Sexual Relations From Unselfish Intimate Marital Love

- God intends for the sexual relationship to be an expression of a committed (for life), mutual, intimate, loving marital relationship where each focuses on loving the other
- In contrast, fornicators exalt fulfilling their sexual desires above all things
- They use people as mere objects to satisfy their sexual desires but they are never satisfied

22

Separates Sexual Relations From Unselfish Intimate Marital Love

2Sa 13:1 Now it was after this that Absalom the son of David had a beautiful sister whose name was Tamar, and Amnon the son of David loved her.

2Sa 13:2 Amnon was so frustrated because of his sister Tamar that he made himself ill, for she was a virgin, and it seemed hard to Amnon to do anything to her.

23

Separates Sexual Relations From Unselfish Intimate Marital Love

2Sa 13:11 When she brought *them* to him to eat, he took hold of her and said to her, "Come, lie with me, my sister."

2Sa 13:12 But she answered him, "No, my brother, do not violate me, for such a thing is not done in Israel; do not do this disgraceful thing!"

24

Separates Sexual Relations From Unselfish Intimate Marital Love

2Sa 13:13 "As for me, where could I get rid of my reproach? And as for you, you will be like one of the fools in Israel. Now therefore, please speak to the king, for he will not withhold me from you."

2Sa 13:14 However, he would not listen to her; since he was stronger than she, he violated her and lay with her.

25

Separates Sexual Relations From Unselfish Intimate Marital Love

2Sa 13:15 Then Amnon hated her with a very great hatred; for the hatred with which he hated her was greater than the love with which he had loved her. And Amnon said to her, "Get up, go away!"

2Sa 13:16 But she said to him, "No, because this wrong in sending me away is greater than the other that you have done to me!" Yet he would not listen to her.

26

Separates Sexual Relations From Unselfish Intimate Marital Love

2Sa 13:17 Then he called his young man who attended him and said, "Now throw this woman out of my *presence*, and lock the door behind her."

Pro 6:26 For on account of a harlot one is reduced to a loaf of bread, And an adulteress hunts for the precious life.

27

What Are Some of The Consequences Of Fornication?

1. Corrupts our thinking and character
2. Enslaves us
3. Destroys our bodies
4. Separates sexual relations from unselfish intimate marital love

28

Flee Immorality (Sexual Immorality, Fornication)

1. What is fornication?
2. How does society view fornication?
3. How does God view fornication?
4. What are some of the consequences of fornication?
5. How can we flee fornication and glorify God?

29

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30

Destroys Families

- God intends for one man to be joined in Scriptural marriage to one woman for life in a loving relationship where they have sexual relations only with one another
- Fornication destroys families because marriages that should continue are broken
- Also many marriages are begun after unscriptural divorces (not for fornication) that God calls adultery

31

Destroys Families

- Children are emotionally and sometimes physically damaged suffering through a broken home
- Fornicators exalt their sexual desires above all dishonoring God, themselves and marriage
- Many fornicating without being married
- Many unmarried fathers and mothers
- Many unwanted children murdered, aborted

32

Destroys Families

Mat 19:3 Some Pharisees came to Jesus, testing Him and asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason at all?"

Mat 19:4 And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,

33

Destroys Families

Mat 19:5 and said, 'FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH'?

Mat 19:6 "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."

34

Destroys Families

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

Luk 16:18 "Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries one who is divorced from a husband commits adultery.

35

Destroys Families

Rom 7:2 For the married woman is bound by law to her husband while he is living; but if her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband.

Rom 7:3 So then, if while her husband is living she is joined to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is not an adulteress though she is joined to another man.

36

Destroys Families

Mat 18:5 "And whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me;

Mat 18:6 but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

37

Destroys Families

Pro 6:30 Men do not despise a thief if he steals To satisfy himself when he is hungry;

Pro 6:31 But when he is found, he must repay sevenfold; He must give all the substance of his house.

Pro 6:32 The one who commits adultery with a woman is lacking sense; He who would destroy himself does it.

38

Destroys Families

Pro 6:33 Wounds and disgrace he will find, And his reproach will not be blotted out.

Pro 6:34 For jealousy enrages a man, And he will not spare in the day of vengeance.

Pro 6:35 He will not accept any ransom, Nor will he be satisfied though you give many gifts.

39

Destroys Nations

Lev 18:6 'None of you shall approach any blood relative of his to uncover nakedness; I am the LORD.

Lev 18:20 'You shall not have intercourse with your neighbor's wife, to be defiled with her.

Lev 18:21 'You shall not give any of your offspring to offer them to Molech, nor shall you profane the name of your God; I am the LORD.

40

Destroys Nations

Lev 18:22 'You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination.

Lev 18:23 'Also you shall not have intercourse with any animal to be defiled with it, nor shall any woman stand before an animal to mate with it; it is a perversion.

Lev 18:24 'Do not defile yourselves by any of these things; for by all these the nations which I am casting out before you have become defiled.

41

Separates Us From God Now And For Eternity

Eph 5:3 But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints;

Eph 5:4 and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

42

Separates Us From God Now And For Eternity

Eph 5:5 For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

Eph 5:6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

43

What Are Some of The Consequences Of Fornication?

1. Corrupts our thinking and character
2. Enslaves us
3. Destroys our bodies
4. Separates sexual relations from unselfish intimate marital love
5. Destroys families
6. Destroys nations
7. Separates us from God now and for eternity

44

Become A Christian To Be Forgiven of All Sins Including Fornication

1Co 6:9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

1Co 6:10 nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

45

Become A Christian To Be Forgiven of All Sins Including Fornication

1Co 6:11 Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

Act 18:8 Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, believed in the Lord with all his household, and many of the Corinthians when they heard were believing and being baptized.

46

Become A Christian To Be Forgiven of All Sins Including Fornication

Act 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified."

Act 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

47

Become A Christian To Be Forgiven of All Sins Including Fornication

Act 2:38 Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Act 8:36 As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch *said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?"

48

Become A Christian To Be Forgiven of All Sins Including Fornication

Act 8:37 [And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."]

Act 8:38 And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him.

49

Become A Christian To Be Forgiven of All Sins Including Fornication

Act 8:39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; and the eunuch no longer saw him, but went on his way rejoicing.

50

As A Christian, Repent, Confess And Pray For Forgiveness of Sins Including Fornication

Act 8:22 "Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.

1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

51

Christians Must End All Fornication Including Unlawful Marriages

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

Mat 5:32 but I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for the reason of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

52

Christians Must End All Fornication Including Unlawful Marriages

Luk 16:18 "Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries one who is divorced from a husband commits adultery.

53

Be Transformed By The Renewing of Your Mind Through The Gospel

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

54

Be Transformed By The Renewing of Your Mind Through The Gospel

Heb 4:12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

55

Be Transformed By The Renewing of Your Mind Through The Gospel

Php 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

56

Be Transformed By The Renewing of Your Mind Through The Gospel

Gal 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Rom 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

57

How Can We Flee Fornication And Glorify God?

1. Become a Christian to be forgiven of all sins including fornication
2. As a Christian, repent, confess and pray for forgiveness of our sins including fornication
3. Be transformed by the renewing of your mind through the gospel

58

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59

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60

Make Your Members Dead To Sin Including
Fornication And Alive To God

Mat 5:27 "You have heard that it was said,
'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY';
Mat 5:28 but I say to you that everyone who
looks at a woman with lust for her has
already committed adultery with her in his
heart.

61

Make Your Members Dead To Sin Including
Fornication And Alive To God

Mat 5:29 "If 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.
Mat 5:30 "If your right hand makes you
stumble, cut it off 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 go
into hell.

62

Make Your Members Dead To Sin Including
Fornication And Alive To God

Rom 6:11 Even so consider yourselves to
be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ
Jesus.
Rom 6:12 Therefore do not let sin reign in
your mortal body so that you obey its lusts,

63

Make Your Members Dead To Sin Including
Fornication And Alive To God

Rom 6:13 and do not go on presenting the
members of your body to sin as instruments
of unrighteousness; but present yourselves
to God as those alive from the dead, and
your members as instruments of
righteousness to God.
Rom 6:14 For sin shall not be master over
you, for you are not under law but under
grace.

64

Make Your Members Dead To Sin Including
Fornication And Alive To God

Gal 5:19 Now the deeds of the flesh are
evident, which are: immorality, impurity,
sensuality,
Gal 5:20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife,
jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes,
dissensions, factions,

65

Make Your Members Dead To Sin Including
Fornication And Alive To God

Gal 5:21 envying, drunkenness, carousing,
and things like these, of which I forewarn
you, just as I have forewarned you, that
those who practice such things will not
inherit the kingdom of God.
Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love,
joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness,

66

Make Your Members Dead To Sin Including Fornication And Alive To God

Gal 5:23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Gal 5:24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

67

Become Dead To Fornication And All Sins Leading To It And Alive To God

1. Immodest dress
2. Pornography
3. Suggestive music and movies
4. Passionate kissing and embracing
5. Modern dancing
6. Sinful communications by Internet, cell phones or other ways
7. Parties promoting fornication

68

Make Your Members Dead To Sin Including Fornication And Alive To God

1Co 6:12 All things are lawful for me, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be mastered by anything.

1Co 6:13 Food is for the stomach and the stomach is for food, but God will do away with both of them. Yet the body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body.

69

Make Your Members Dead To Sin Including Fornication And Alive To God

1Co 6:14 Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power.

1Co 6:15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be!

70

Make Your Members Dead To Sin Including Fornication And Alive To God

1Co 6:16 Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a prostitute is one body with her? For He says, "THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH."

1Co 6:17 But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

71

Be Alert In Prayer And Take God's Way of Escape

Mat 26:41 "Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Php 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

72

Be Alert In Prayer And Take God's Way of Escape

1Co 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

73

Be Alert In Prayer And Take God's Way of Escape

Gen 39:9 "There is no one greater in this house than I, and he has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do this great evil and sin against God?"

Gen 39:12 She caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me!" And he left his garment in her hand and fled, and went outside.

74

Live A Holy Life Seeking Sexual Purity And Honoring Scriptural Marriage

2Ti 2:22 Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

1Ti 5:1 Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but rather appeal to him as a father, to the younger men as brothers,

1Ti 5:2 the older women as mothers, and the younger women as sisters, in all purity.

75

Live A Holy Life Seeking Sexual Purity And Honoring Scriptural Marriage

Mat 19:3 Some Pharisees came to Jesus, testing Him and asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason at all?"

Mat 19:4 And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,

76

Live A Holy Life Seeking Sexual Purity And Honoring Scriptural Marriage

Mat 19:5 and said, 'FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH'?

Mat 19:6 "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."

77

Live A Holy Life Seeking Sexual Purity And Honoring Scriptural Marriage

Mat 19:7 They *said to Him, "Why then did Moses command to GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE AND SEND her AWAY?"

Mat 19:8 He *said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses permitted you to divorce your wives; but from the beginning it has not been this way.

78

Live A Holy Life Seeking Sexual Purity And Honoring Scriptural Marriage

Mat 19:9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

Luk 16:18 "Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries one who is divorced from a husband commits adultery."

79

Live A Holy Life Seeking Sexual Purity And Honoring Scriptural Marriage

1Co 7:1 Now concerning the things about which you wrote, it is good for a man not to touch a woman.

1Co 7:2 But because of immoralities, each man is to have his own wife, and each woman is to have her own husband.

1Co 7:3 The husband must fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband.

80

Live A Holy Life Seeking Sexual Purity And Honoring Scriptural Marriage

1Co 7:4 The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does; and likewise also the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.

1Co 7:5 Stop depriving one another, except by agreement for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer, and come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

81

Live A Holy Life Seeking Sexual Purity And Honoring Scriptural Marriage

Col 3:18 Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

Col 3:19 Husbands, love your wives and do not be embittered against them.

Eph 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

Eph 6:4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

82

Help Others Flee Fornication

Heb 3:12 Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.

Heb 3:13 But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Heb 3:14 For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end,

83

Help Others Flee Fornication

Jas 5:16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

Eph 4:31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

Eph 4:32 Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

84

Help Others Flee Fornication

1Co 5:1 It is actually reported that there is immorality among you, and immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles, that someone has his father's wife.

1Co 5:2 You have become arrogant and have not mourned instead, so that the one who had done this deed would be removed from your midst.

85

Help Others Flee Fornication

1Co 5:11 But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler--not even to eat with such a one.

86

Help Others Flee Fornication

2Co 2:6 Sufficient for such a one is this punishment which was inflicted by the majority,

2Co 2:7 so that on the contrary you should rather forgive and comfort him, otherwise such a one might be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow.

2Co 2:8 Wherefore I urge you to reaffirm your love for him.

87

How Can We Flee Fornication And Glorify God?

1. Become a Christian to be forgiven of all sins including fornication
2. As a Christian, repent, confess and pray for forgiveness of our sins including fornication
3. Be transformed by the renewing of your mind through the gospel
4. Make your members dead to sin including fornication and alive to God

88

How Can We Flee Fornication And Glorify God?

5. Be alert in prayer and take God's way of escape
6. Live a holy life seeking sexual purity and honoring Scriptural marriage
7. Help others flee fornication

89

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90