



**Deciding to Deal With My Real Issues
(Managing My Intimate-Sexual Issues, Part 2)**

Date: September 21-22, 2019

Text: Ephesians 6:1-4; 2 Samuel 13:1-28

Big Question: How have assumptions and approaches to (sexual) intimacy affected your life?

**I. Wrong Assumptions People
Make About (Sexual) Intimacy**

1. They assume that **knowing the Bible** gives you all the information you need to know about intimacy
2. They assume **personal life experiences** give them all the information they need to know about intimacy
3. They assume that **media** and **music** are good teachers about sexual intimacy

**II. Wrong Approaches Families Have
Towards Physical (Sexual) Intimacy**

1. They **delegate** this discussion to the church, school and community.

Note: The parents are the main teachers and the father is the lead teacher.

- Ephesians 6:1-4 (NKJV): 6 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 “Honor your father and mother,” which is the first commandment with promise: 3 “that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.”4 And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but **bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.**
2. They **only speak** of it when discussing fornication, adultery, lust, or pregnancy
 3. They **rarely face** their physical intimacy history (They pretend they have always done well in this area)
 4. They **judge others** who have made bad decisions harshly (They stone struggling people)
 5. They **use the Bible** to rebuke rather than to build up a person during their intimate struggles.
 6. They approach **intimate** (sexual) **tragedies as if they** cannot be overcome

**III. Missed Opportunities to Heal Those
Damaged By Sexual Abuse**

A Missed Opportunity to Heal

“...the first thing my father said to me was, ‘**What were you wearing?**’ I just screamed, ‘Does it matter?!’ I was very angry that he did that. That was the second time I ever yelled at my father in my life. (Page 88)



My parents said that my father's a pastor and, according to the Bible, a pastor is judged by his children, and so my having done this reflected badly on him, which . . . I don't think I can do justice to the feeling I had then in that moment . . . but obviously, it was horrible. (Page 88)

Equating survivors' actions, such as drinking in Laura's case, and perpetrators' actions, such as assault, is called **sin-leveling**, and is often categorized as a form of spiritual abuse. (Page 91)

Source: Pure: Inside the Evangelical Movement That Shamed a Generation of Young Women and How I Escaped It by Linda Kay Klein (Note: I don't agree with the theology of this author. But, I often read people I don't fully agree with.)

A Missed Opportunity to Lead

1. **Amnon has misplaced feelings for his sister and betrays her**

- 2 Samuel 13:1 After this Absalom the son of David had a lovely sister, whose name was Tamar; and Amnon the son of David loved her.
- 2 Samuel 13:12 But she answered him, "No, my brother, do not force me, for no such thing should be done in Israel. Do not do this disgraceful thing! 13 And I, where could I take my shame? And as for you, you would be like one of the fools in Israel.

2. **David gets angry but does nothing to right the wrong**

- 2 Samuel 13:21 But when King David heard of all these things, he was very angry.

3. **Absalom takes matters into his own hands**

- 2 Samuel 13:28 Now Absalom had commanded his servants, saying, "Watch now, when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say to you, 'Strike Amnon!' then kill him. Do not be afraid. Have I not commanded you? Be courageous and valiant." 29 So the servants of Absalom did to Amnon as Absalom had commanded. Then all the king's sons arose, and each one got on his mule and fled.

Conclusion:

1. What are you still carrying around?
2. Who can't you get out of your mind?
3. What opportunities to heal have you missed?
4. What opportunities to lead have you missed?

Next Time: Dealing With the Real Issues of Your Children

Big Question: What are the real issues your children would say your family faces?