

The Problem of Purity and Pornography

2022 ACR Men's Retreat, March 20-22, 2022

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A photograph of a house at night, completely engulfed in bright orange and yellow flames. The fire is intense, with thick smoke rising from the roof. The house's structure is visible through the fire, showing several windows and a central doorway. The background is dark, making the fire stand out prominently.

A Burning House

A Burning House

ECLECTIC, AL (WSFA) - Two Eclectic men are being dubbed as “heroes,” after saving their neighbor from his burning house.

According to the Eclectic Fire Department, the incident happened at approximately 3:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. When fire officials arrived on the scene, they found a house engulfed in flames.

Also upon arrival, the fire department found that two men, Tyler McLeod and Joshua Donahey, had rescued their neighbor from his burning house.

“I pull the curtain back and I see that my neighbor’s house is on fire. That’s when it hit me that something has to be done,” said McLeod.

That’s when McLeod woke up his roommate, Donahey.

McLeod and Donahey walked over to the burning house and they realized their neighbor was trapped inside.

“We could hear him yelling from inside the house” Donahey said.

“I went back around to his bedroom window and was beating on his window, trying to get him to come over, and I ended up just snatching the air conditioning unit off of the wall and holding a flashlight in there, waving it around, telling him to come to my voice,” McLeod said. “Then I saw his head poke through the smoke and I knew that we could get him.”

Some are calling the men “heroes,” but they don’t see it that way.

“I saw an opportunity to save his life, not necessarily be a hero, but like I don’t even feel like I am a hero. I just wanted to save my friend,” McLeod said.

“To be honest, I think it’s something anybody would do. I mean, we just acted with basic instinct. Save the man, get him out of there... it’s a person’s life,” Donahey said.

<https://www.wtvm.com/2019/01/27/men-save-neighbor-burning-house-eclectic/>

Note: story was edited for emphasis and to reduce length

The Blazing Fire of Pornography

According to Cybersecurity company Webroot:

- 28,258 users are watching pornography every second.
- \$3,075.64 is spent on porn every second on the Internet.
- 40 million Americans regularly visit porn sites.
- 35% of all Internet downloads are related to pornography

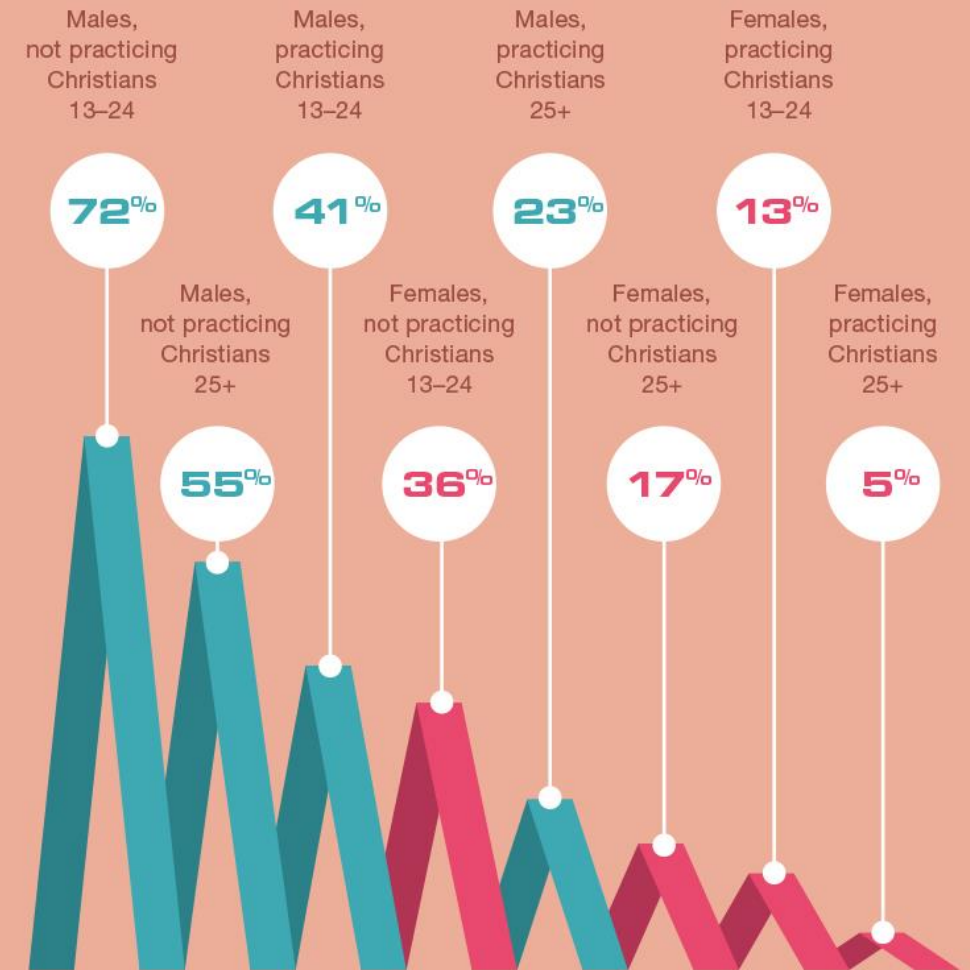
Webroot Cybersecurity website, <https://www.webroot.com/us/en/resources/tips-articles/internet-pornography-by-the-numbers/>

In the ACR churches:

- 30-50% are struggling with pornography use

ACR Purity Ministry surveys, Rondorf

AGE, GENDER AND FAITH PRACTICE ARE THE THREE BIGGEST FACTORS IN FREQUENT PORN USE



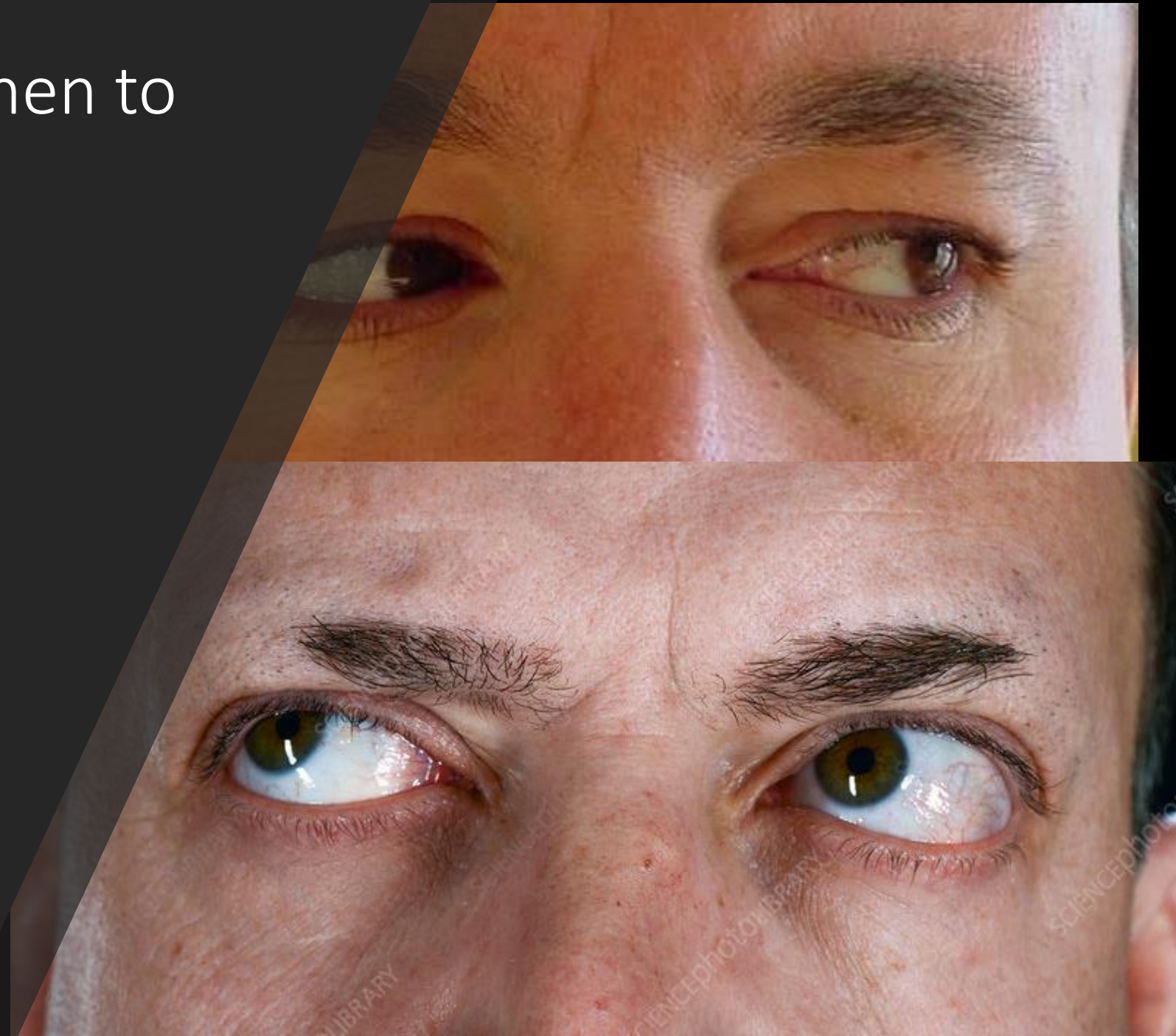
It's important for Christian leaders—especially youth and young adult pastors—to notice that the people who are third most likely to use porn are teen/young adult males in the Church. While they are still well below their peers who are not practicing Christians in frequency of porn use, four in 10 of them are actively seeking it out at least once or twice a month.

Look to your left, then to your right...

Statistically speaking:

- **1 in 3** men in your church are struggling with porn use
- Among those under 24 (teens, campus, young adults) it's more like **1 in 2**

"I just wanted to save my friend... I think it's something anybody would do... Save the man, get him out of there... It's a person's life"



The Story of Joseph

No, not this one...

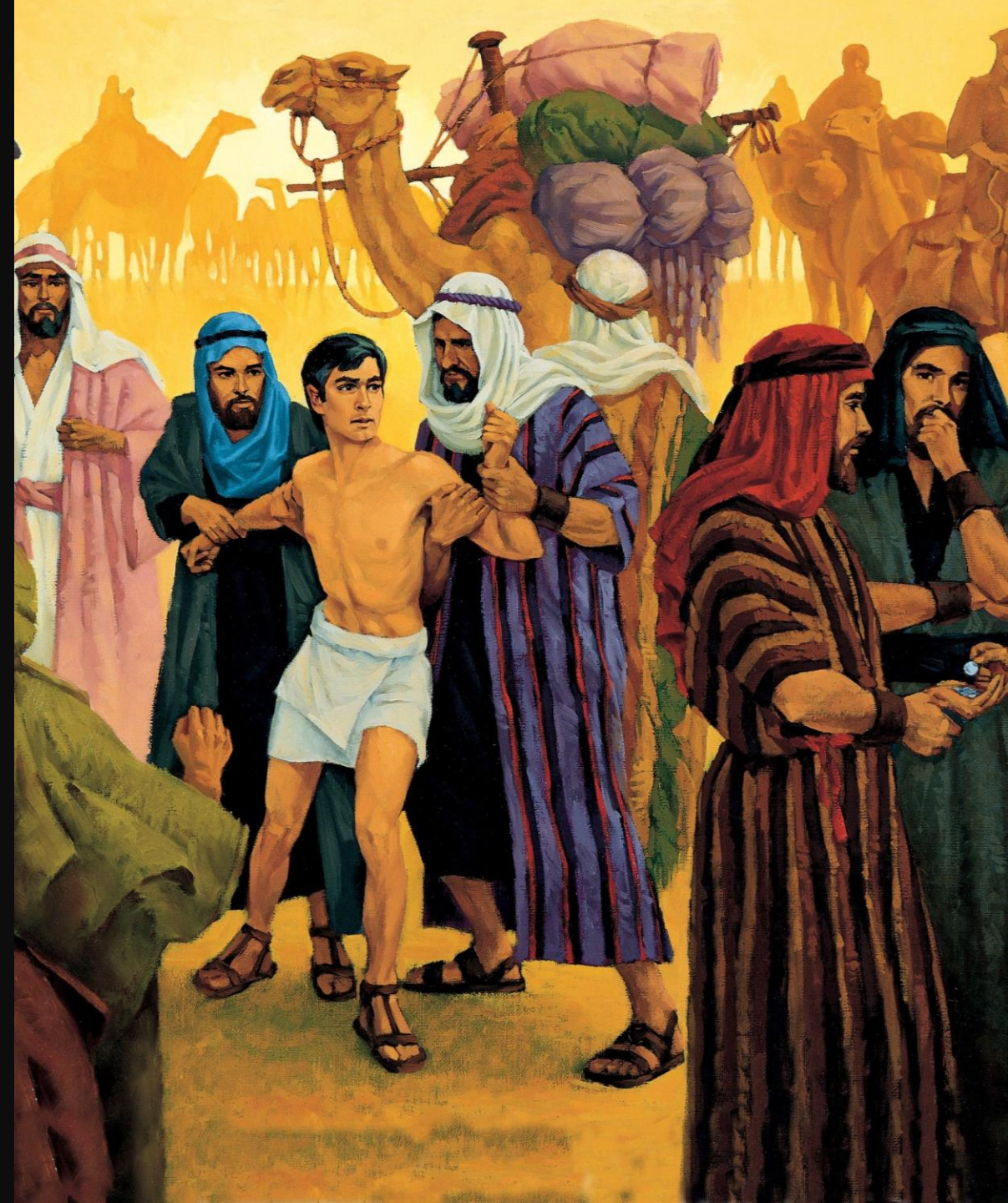


JOSEPH
AND THE
AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

THIS one...

Joseph was:

- A self-confident dreamer
 - The favorite son to his father Jacob
 - Sold by his brothers
 - Taken down to Egypt
 - Successful and trusted in his master Potiphar's house
-



1: Joseph was vulnerable (Genesis 39:1,4-6a NIV)

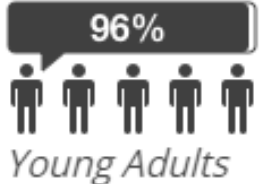
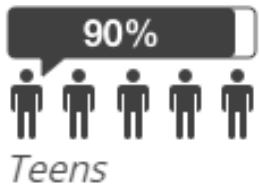
¹ Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there.

⁴ Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. ⁵ From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the LORD blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of the LORD was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field. ⁶ So Potiphar left everything he had in Joseph's care; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate.



Stats on How People Perceive Porn

90% of teens and **96% of young adults** are either encouraging, accepting, or neutral when they talk about porn with their friends.



Just **55% of adults** 25 and older believe porn is wrong.



<https://www.covenanteyes.com/pornstats/>

Our Most Vulnerable: Young Men

- Of young Christian adults 18-24 years old, 76% actively search for porn.
- Many teens are sexting—either on the receiving or sending end of sexually explicit images. 62% of teens and young adults have received a sexually explicit image and 41% have sent one (usually from or to their boyfriend, girlfriend, or friend).
- Youth pastors (64%) confessed to struggling with porn, either currently or in the past.

<https://www.blazinggrace.org/porn-statistics/>

2: Joseph was tempted (Genesis 39:6b-11 NIV)

⁶ Now Joseph was well-built and handsome, ⁷ and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!"

⁸ But he refused. "With me in charge," he told her, "my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care. ⁹ No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?" ¹⁰ And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even be with her.

¹¹ One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside.



Day after Day

Every Day on the Internet:

- 37 pornographic videos are created in the United States.
- 2.5 billion emails containing porn are sent or received.
- 68 million search queries related to pornography- 25% of total searches- are generated.
- 116,000 queries related to child pornography are received.





Second by Second

Every Second on the Internet:

- 28,258 users are watching pornography on the internet.
- \$3,075.64 is being spent on pornography on the internet.
- 372 people are typing the word "adult" into a search engine.



Home alone

From a study of sexual behavior during the pandemic:

- Pornhub.com reported 38-61% increase in website traffic after making premium content free after lockdowns began
- Survey of American adults showed use of internet porn increased from 45% in Feb to almost 60% in May, then return to 40% range in Aug and Oct

Archives of Sexual Behavior, *Porndemic? A Longitudinal Study of Pornography Use Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic in a Nationally Representative Sample of Americans*, Grubbs, et al

Home collapse

- Over one-half (55%) of all married men view pornography monthly - that statistic is the same for married Christian men.
- 47% of families in the United States reported that pornography is a problem in their home.
- 56% of divorce cases involve one party having an “obsessive interest” in porn websites.

Bullet 1: provenmen.org survey, Bullets 2-3: Webroot statistics, see previous reference



3: Joseph was resistant (Genesis 39:12 NIV)

¹² She caught him by his cloak and said, “Come to bed with me!” But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house.



Joseph fled, not fell

- He would not betray his master's trust or sin against God. (Gen 39:9)
 - He fled and left his cloak behind. (Gen 39:14)
 - Fled is “nus” in Hebrew = to flee to a place of refuge (Exo 21:13)
-



What if Joseph had not fled?

- He may not have been sent to the jail (kept it a secret or maybe killed)
- He may not have met the cupbearer and the baker
- He may not have been lifted up before Pharaoh
- He may not have become second in command of all Egypt
- He may not have rescued his family, the people of Israel, from the famine

God's plan is for us to flee temptation and find refuge in Him!

Hope for Refuge

Results of survey of 88 Marriages receiving help via counseling program:

- At 6-12 months: 88% reported somewhat or entirely forgiveness (100% after 3 years)
- 74% of men, 66% of women reported better sexual relationship after program concluded

Sexual Addiction and Compulsivity journal, *Couple Recovery from Sexual Addiction/Co-addiction: Results of a Survey of 88 Marriages*, Schneider and Schneider (Oxbow Academy)





Starting A Purity Ministry

Video from Rob Cochran, Akron

<https://vimeo.com/690060115>





Purity
Ministry
Testimony

Dave Wahl, Akron





Purity
Ministry
Resources

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