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What is lust / what is purity; the question of masturbation : Scott 15 mn.

- Intramurals: the UM Debate Team
- Read Romans 14; read ! Tim 5:1-2; read Matt 5:27-30

### Mainly a Boundaries Understanding

Romans 14:1 Accept the one whose faith is weak, a without quarreling over disputable matters. **2** One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. **3** The one who eats everything must not treat with contempt the one who does not, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted them. **4** Who are you to judge someone else's servant? a To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

**Rom. 14:5** One person considers one day more sacred than another; a another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind.

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1 Tim 5:1-2 Do not rebuke an older man harshly, b but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, **2** older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity.

- A "Story" that takes the edge off.

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"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' a **28** But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. **29** If your right eye causes you to stumble, a gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. **30** And if your right hand causes you to stumble, a cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

- 1) Whatever it takes
- 2) Let's go to the source, beyond Behavior

- Greek Lust and “Absolute Purity”—please do your own Gk research. The trans is likely good.
  - No Incest. You’re my sister.
  - Lust—the point is the object, not the ambition
- Our story development and the motivation of Taking a Stand in our youth, plus practical
  - So at the edges, it’s SO clear (accept for Rome people)
  - In the mushy middle, it’s more invented.
  - So, what is Clear? What is disputable?
  - What Should Be Clear:
    - Concrete acts: adultery, pre-marital sex, homosex, porn or cyber sex,
    - trying to get close to the line (Matt 5) (let’s spend the night with each other)
    - A woman who is not Mine. Get far away. Think Genesis 39:7-12

Now Joseph was well-built and handsome,<sup>b</sup>

**7** and after a while his master’s wife took notice of Joseph and said, “Come to bed with me!”<sup>a</sup>

**Gen. 39:8** But he refused.<sup>a</sup> “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.<sup>b</sup> **9** No one is greater in this house than I am.<sup>a</sup> 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?”<sup>b</sup> **10** And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused<sup>a</sup> to go to bed with her or even be with her.

**Gen. 39:11** One day he went into the house to attend to his duties,<sup>a</sup> and none of the household servants<sup>b</sup> was inside. **12** She caught him by his cloak<sup>a</sup> and said, “Come to bed with me!”<sup>b</sup> But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house.<sup>c</sup>

- Not clear: Admiring Beauty? Being attracted? Arousal? Sexual dreams? Where is the line? Never Kiss?
  - We tend to be ruthless about this, so we can “know” we’re “pure”

- But can we know attraction is wrong? Is arousal wrong? It's a siren call.
- U Mass Debate Team? My Opinion is that it depends on what's on your heart.

## Church discipline with sexual « sins

- 1 Kor 5: the most famous discipline scripture is in a sex context. So it's amazing how far we may drift
- First, some review of "Discipline"

**1Cor. 5:6** Your boasting is not good.<sup>a</sup> Don't you know that a little yeast<sup>b</sup> leavens the whole batch of dough?<sup>c</sup> **7** Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.<sup>a</sup> **8** Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old bread leavened with malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread<sup>a</sup> of sincerity and truth. **1Cor. 5:9** I wrote to you in my letter not to associate<sup>a</sup> with sexually immoral people— **10** not at all meaning the people of this world<sup>a</sup> who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. **11** But now I am writing to you that you must not associate with anyone who claims to be a brother or sister<sup>a</sup> but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater<sup>b</sup> or slanderer, a drunkard or swindler. Do not even eat with such people.

- Step Z of an Intervention (Matt 18 continuum). From one to many, from private to public
- The public side of discipline?
  - Safety of the flock
  - Reality Check—can the many "break in" to your story?
  - Shocking, even "Hurting"—can it bring godly sorrow? (2 Kor 7 goal)
  - the Community is assuming some Control \* Chinese Volleyball

So:

- Are we enabling sin? Haunts us.
- Are we disfellowshipping people for a disputable matter? (U Mass). Haunts us?
- So what lines do we draw? Is it clear? Is it commended w Good Process?
- A Tale of two singles
- Defining a Path to Repentance: 2 Kor 7, defending your sister, "with absolute purity"