



A service of the  
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# Youth Supports

A resource to encourage and empower youth  
leaders for the expansion of the Lord's kingdom.

March 2004 - Volume 5, Issue 3

- It's Time to Talk about Sex
- *youthEsource* resource for *The Passion*

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## It's Time to Talk about Sex

Your kids want to talk about it, even if they don't act like it. Many of your youth's parents don't think their kids are exposed to it. Some of you may be saying, "It's not a topic we need to discuss; our youth aren't like that." As you read the following statistics from the *National Coalition for the Protection of Children and Families*, apply them to your youth group:

- 61% of all high school seniors have had sexual intercourse
- Roughly 1/2 are currently sexually active (Jan., 2001)
- 1/4 of sexually active adolescents become infected with an STD each year
- Acquaintance rape and date rape account for 70% to 80% of rape crisis center contacts
- 27.5% of minors (17 and under) online visited an adult site in September 2000
- 21.2% of minors visiting adult sites are 14 and younger
- The NCPCF, after interviewing thousands of youth, found that almost 100% of youth had seen some form of pornography by the time they graduated high school

By the time most adolescents graduate from high school, they will have spent an average of 15,000 hours watching TV and only 12,000 hours in the classroom. During the 38 hours a week they spend in the media, our youth are hearing four lies about sex:

1. Sex anytime, anywhere, with anyone has no negative consequences, and is in fact beneficial.
2. A woman's primary role is to satisfy a man sexually.
3. Children and marriage are obstacles to a good sex life.
4. Everyone is sexually active in all kinds of ways.

These are the messages they hear and see daily. In the recent Super Bowl half-time show, a traditionally "family" event, the sexual innuendo and references were constant even before the indecent exposure by Ms. Jackson. "The media has become our primary source of sex education", says the NCPCF web site. "Today, the average teen will see almost 14,000 sexual references every year. Only 165 of these references refer to birth control, self-control, abstinence, pregnancy, or STD's."

As difficult as it can be, our youth desperately need to hear the Bible's and our

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through what  
we do today."  
- a youth

Most  
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about  
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and explain  
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incredible  
grace.

youthEsource  
resource!

view on topics such as: virginity, STD's, oral sex, masturbation, mutual masturbation, adultery, pornography, boundary, abstinence, sexual immorality, homosexuality, fornication, sexual intercourse, and sexual outercourse. Trust me, your kids are hearing about all these topics from the world. How can we expect them to be in the world, but not of the world (Rom. 12:1-2, John 15:19) if they don't hear the truth about these issues from us?

I recently asked our jr. high class whether the Bible was relevant to them on the issue of sex. Half of them said no. One young man said, "Bible people didn't go through what we do today." Many of your youth probably believe that they are unique in their feelings about the opposite sex and that no one has been through what they are going through. Be real, and let the Scriptures be real with them about temptation and sex. Talk about Joseph and Potiphar's wife (Gen. 39), David and Bathsheba (2 Sam. 11), cover the Law (Ex. 20:14, Matt. 5:27-30, Hebrews 13:4), and how to handle temptation (Gen. 39:12, I Thess. 4:1-8, Phil. 2:3-4, II Tim. 2:22, I Cor. 6:12-20, I Peter 2:11). Talk about your own struggles with temptation when you were their age. Tell them you know it isn't easy to deal with, but they can do everything through him who gives them strength (Phil. 4:13).

Most importantly, tell them about forgiveness. You probably have sr. highers and even jr. highers that have had or are having sexual experiences. Teach them that it is not too late to stay pure. I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a girl. Job 31:1. Take them to the cross, let them know they are clean and can start over. Read Isaiah 1:18 to them *...though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow...* and explain God's incredible grace.

One last point for youth workers: It is extremely difficult to help your youth and parents if you are deep in sexual sin yourself. I recommend Christian counseling and getting an accountability partner. Remember that you are not alone, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ grants forgiveness and healing. *Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.* Psalm 51:7.

The best resource on this topic is the "Sex and Young America" curriculum from the NCPCF. Student books, videos for youth groups and teaching sessions for just parents, just boys and just girls are available. All statistics and the 4 lies of our sexualized culture came from NCPCF materials and web site, [www.sexandyoungamerica.com](http://www.sexandyoungamerica.com). They received much of their statistics from the AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS: Sexuality, Contraception, and the Media, PEDIATRICS Vol. 107 No. 1 January 2001, pp. 191-194

[www.aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/pediatrics%3b107/1/191](http://www.aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/pediatrics%3b107/1/191)

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Find past issues of Youth Supports at:

[http://www.nowlcms.org/educational\\_services/NetworkingMinistries/YouthSupports.aspx](http://www.nowlcms.org/educational_services/NetworkingMinistries/YouthSupports.aspx)

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## youthEsource resource for *The Passion*

Want some ideas to make the most of *The Passion* movie with your youth group? Check out this web page:

<<http://www.lcms.org/graphics/assets/media/thESource/passion%20of%20the%20christ.pdf>> If that doesn't work, go to [www.youthesource.com](http://www.youthesource.com) and then to the "Essentials" pop up window to find the resource.

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