

# MODESTY

## Navigating Cultural Currents

April 23, 2017

Introduction: Of all the topics in our cultural series, I would say the topic of modesty hits seriously close to home. Let me say this upfront: beauty is not a sin. What is sinful, shameful and ultimately degrading is when we take the treasures God has given us and display them openly for those who don't have a right to taste, touch, feel and experience those treasures. Today we head into deep water on the topic of modesty.

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

### I. Responding to Today's Culture

#### A. Make space for others who don't share your convictions.

<sup>49</sup> *John answered, "Master, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because **he does not follow with us.**"* <sup>50</sup> *But Jesus said to him, "Do not stop him, for the one who is not against you is for you" (Luke 9:49–50).*

Tolerance – The ability to acknowledge and permit other people's views. To put up with opinions with which you disagree. To live with ideas and people you may find appalling.

Fake Tolerance – Tolerating other people's views as long as their opinion falls within your range of acceptability.

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Principle: We need to listen more, condemn less.

#### B. Live out your convictions and stand out in a crowd.

*But Peter and the apostles answered, "**We must obey God rather than men**" (Acts 5:29).*

### II. Background and Biases

#### III. Modesty – 2 Kings 20 – Hezekiah

#### A. To have regard for decency of behavior, speech, or dress.

B. Whether we like it or not, we live in a culture where immodesty is a serious problem. *Were they ashamed when they committed abomination? No, they were not at all ashamed; **they did not know how to blush** (Jeremiah 6:15a).*

NOTE: We all would agree there is an absolute norm to be kept when it comes to modesty.

NOTE: The struggle is agreeing on where that line needs to land.

#### IV. Modesty Principles

##### A. Ownership

<sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that **your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you**, whom you have from God? **You are not your own**, <sup>20</sup> for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body (1 Corinthians 6:19–20).

##### B. Lordship

For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might **be Lord both of the dead and of the living** (Romans 14:9).

##### C. Holiness

<sup>3</sup> For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; <sup>4</sup> that **each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor**, <sup>5</sup> not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; <sup>6</sup> that **no one transgress and wrong his brother** in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. <sup>7</sup> **For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness.** <sup>8</sup> Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you (1 Thessalonians 4:3–8).

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(Luke 9:49-50)

Principle: We need to \_\_\_\_\_ more, \_\_\_\_\_ less.

- B. Live out your \_\_\_\_\_ and stand out in a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Acts 5:29)

### II. Background and Biases

#### III. Modesty – 2 Kings 20 – Hezekiah

- A. To have regard for decency of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_.

- B. Whether we like it or not, we live in a culture where \_\_\_\_\_ is a serious \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Jeremiah 6:15a)

NOTE: We all would agree there is an \_\_\_\_\_ to be kept when it comes to modesty.

NOTE: The struggle is \_\_\_\_\_ on where that \_\_\_\_\_ needs to land.

### IV. Modesty Principles

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

- B. \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 14:9)

- C. \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Thessalonians 4:3-8)