MAINTAINING MORAL PURITY

● Moral Purity is one of the foundations of leadership.
● Satan is attacking leaders in ministry so we need to know how to MAINTAIN MORAL PURITY IN MINISTRY.
   ● Paul “Now this is our boast: Our conscience testifies that we have conducted ourselves in the world and especially in our relations with you, in the holiness and sincerity that are from God.” (2 Cor. 1:12)
   ● “An elder must be blameless” – 1st qualification (Titus 2:6)
   ● “But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people.” (Ephesians 5:3)

TO MAINTAIN MORAL PURITY IN MINISTRY,
● YOU MUST RECOGNIZE BUILT-IN ______________ IN THE MINISTRY
   1. 1 Kings 19:1-9
   2. Prov. 5:3-4
   3.

TO MAINTAIN MORAL PURITY IN MINISTRY,
● YOU MUST HAVE A __________________ FOR MAINTAINING MORAL PURITY
   ● “It is God's will that you should be holy; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen who do not know God and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.” (1 Thess. 4:3-7)

Your Strategy should include,
1. Never considering yourself above
   ● “So be careful. If you are thinking, `Oh, I would never behave like that – let this be a warning to you. For you too may fall into sin.” (1 Cor. 10:12 (LB))
   ● “Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.” (Prov. 16:18)
   ● “The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?” (Jer. 17:9)

Your Strategy should include,
2. Keeping a close watch on your
   ● “Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.” (Prov. 4:23)
   ● “I discipline my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.” (1 Cor. 9:27)

Exodus 4:24-26
Point:

*Your Strategy should include,*

3. **Maintaining your**
   - “They made me take care of other’s vineyards while my own vineyard I have neglected.”
     (Song of Solomon 1:6)
   The grass is greener where...

**TO MAINTAIN MORAL PURITY IN MINISTRY,**

- **YOU MUST BEWARE OF DEVELOPING**

Suggestions for Married Leaders

1. Involve your spouse in your
2. Surround yourself with
3. Keep lines of open
4. When you are or , direct it towards your spouse.
   - Prov. 5:15-21 “Drink water from your own cistern.”
5. Date your Spouse.
6. Make a your marriage in public
7. discuss your marriage problems with someone of the .

Suggestions for Single Leaders in Ministry

1. **Develop healthy outlets for**
   - Romans 12:21 “*Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*”
   - The Principle of Replacement
2. **Guard your**
   - James 1:14-15
   - “*Keep your head in all situations.*” (2 Tim. 4:5)
   - “*Prepare your mind for action; be self-controlled.*” (1 Peter 1:13)
   - “*We take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.*” (2 Cor. 10:5)
   - “*Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of your sinful nature.*” (Romans 13:14)
   - “*Anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.*” (Matt. 5:28)
   - “*Take the helmet of salvation...*” (Eph. 6:17)
   - “*I made a covenant with my eyes, not to look lustfully at a girl.*” (Job 31:1)
3. **Remind yourself regularly of the** minimize ____________________  maximize ____________________

   ● “... there is pleasure in sin for a season.” (Heb. 11:25)
   ● “Sin when it is finished rings forth death.” (James 1:15)

4. **Take the** ___________ to protect yourself.

   ● James- “Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing but the body is weak.” (Matt. 26:41)
   ● “Be careful – watch out for attacks from Satan, your great enemy. He prowls around like a hungry, roaring lion looking for some victim to tear apart.” (1 Peter 5:8 (LB))
   ● “But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality...” (Eph. 5:3)

**MINISTRY 10 COMMANDMENTS**

1. Thou shalt not visit the opposite sex alone at home
2. Thou shalt not counsel the opposite sex alone at the office.
3. Thou shalt not counsel the opposite sex more than once without that person’s mate. Refer them.
4. Thou shalt not go to lunch alone with the opposite sex.
5. Thou shalt not kiss any attender of the opposite sex or show affection that could be questioned.
6. Thou shalt not discuss detailed sexual problems with the opposite sex in counseling. Refer them.
7. Thou shalt not discuss your marriage problems with an attender of the opposite sex.
8. Thou shalt be careful in answering cards and letters from the opposite sex.
9. Thou shalt make your secretary your protective ally.
10. Thou shalt pray for the integrity of other leaders in our church.

“Blessed is the man who perseveres under temptation, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the victor’s crown, he life God has promised to those who love him.” (James 1:12)