Sunday Morning March 15, 2015

<u>The Shade of the Cross</u> Power for Sexual Purity

I THESSALONIANS 4:3, 7 (NASV, ESV)

INSIGHT: The pathway to moral purity is to insulate our lives not isolate our lives.

HOW TO INSULATE OUR LIVES:

I. COMMIT TO GOD'S STANDARD OF MORAL PURITY (Psalm 119:9).

QUESTION: When what God says about sex goes against what society says, what will you do?

INSIGHT: Until you commit to God's standard for sex, you can't live pure in an impure world.

INSIGHT: Sex is a gift that can bless you or hurt you.

II. RECEIVE THE POWER OF GOD.

INSIGHT: The power of God insulates us from being run over by temptation.

INSIGHT: Temptation is inevitable but power to resist is available (1 Corinthians 10:13, TEV).

INSIGHT: There is always a way out but it is not automatic.

The Bible pathway to the power of God:

1. Confess your own weakness.

INSIGHT: When we pretend to be self-sufficient, we short circuit God's power for our lives (*Proverbs 29:23, NLT*).

2. Stay hooked to Jesus.

INSIGHT: If you lack power to resist temptation it's because you're unplugged.

INSIGHT: I can have God's power to resist temptation today and lose it tomorrow. It's not permanent (*John 15:5, NLT*).

3. Obey and He will show up for you.

INSIGHT: God's power and my faith are connected (Hebrews 11:1).

INSIGHT: The Bible teaches that God grants power along the way according to our faith.