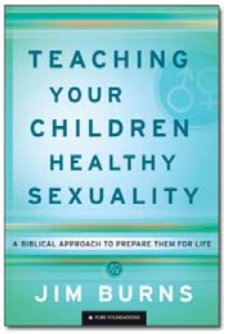
HOMEWORD
WHERE PARENTS GET REAL ANSWERS

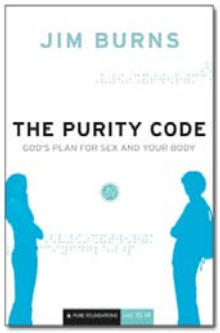
Purity Code—Youth Group Curriculum

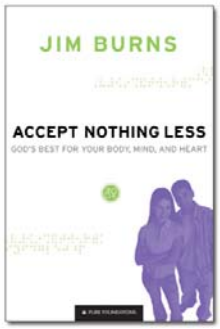
Leaders Introduction

The Pure Foundations Series

Remaining pure in body, mind, eyes, and heart could be the most difficult thing kids will face in their preteens and teens–and into adulthood. Jim Burns, trusted radio host and founder of HomeWord, has developed the *Pure Foundations* series, designed to guide parents and their kids through the sometimes uncomfortable discussions about their developing bodies and God's plan for healthy sexuality. Using a stepped approach, the *Pure Foundations* series starts with a book for parents, *Teaching Your Children Healthy Sexuality,* followed by the book *The Purity Code: God's Plan for Sex and Your Body* to be read by tweens ages 10 to 14 with their parents. *The Purity Code Audio Resource* is a companion to the book and includes 2 CDs providing fresh content not found in the books with advice and answers from interviews with notable youth experts Dr. John Townsend, Shannon Ethridge, Rebecca St. James, Hayley DiMarco, and others. *Accept Nothing Less: God's Best for Your Body, Mind and Heart* is the book for teens 14 and up. Two books for younger children will be available in Fall 2009.







Making the Most of The Purity Code Curriculum

As noted above, *The Purity Code* was designed as a book to be read by tweens ages 10 to 14 with their parents. So, the most comprehensive and effective approach for utilizing the material would be to create a plan that includes parental participation, and might look like this:

1) Facilitate and promote parents reading *Teaching Your Children Healthy Sexuality.*
2) Facilitate and promote parents to purchase *The Purity Code* to give to their kids, and to have the parent and child read one chapter at a time, going through the questions at the end of the chapter before moving on.
3) Use *The Purity Code Curriculum* in your youth group meetings to partner with and supplement what parents are doing.

Okay, that's the ideal plan. However, we understand that there will be parents who may not be willing or even interested in working through *The Purity Code* with their kids. In absence of parental participation in

this approach, we feel it would be best for youth leaders to go over the entire book with their students (in small groups or one-on-one) and, again, to use the curriculum as a supplement. Getting *The Purity Code* into your students' hands is key to giving them the opportunity to receive a comprehensive approach to sex and sexuality. But, be wise in how you do this, especially if parents won't be working through the book together with their own kids. You'll want to get parental permission before giving their kids a book on sex and sexuality.

We also understand that taking your students through the entire book may not be a viable option for you. Since you are a youth worker, we know that you have a passion for the kids you work with and that you recognize the need to cover sex and sexuality content with them. If you can do nothing else, do use the curriculum to address this need in a very practical way.

How to Use This Material

Curriculum Overview:
The curriculum is made up of six sessions:

1. The Purity Code
2. The Foundation of Healthy Sexuality
3. The Body: Is Sex Safe?
4. The Mind: Renewing Your Mind for Good
5. The Eyes: Turning Your Eyes From Worthless Things
6. The Heart: Keeping Your Heart Healthy

The Purity Code book contains 13 chapters, and covers more territory on sex and sexuality than the curriculum does. We've put together the curriculum to cover material that is best suited for youth group study sessions, while still covering all the essentials of *The Purity Code.*

Preparation:

1. **Read *The Purity Code*!** Your biggest resource in making the most of the curriculum is developing a familiarity with the content of the book.
2. **Review the Leader's Guide** for each session thoroughly.
3. **Adapt.** No curriculum (even ours!) should be used in a "canned" fashion. As you review each session's material, make whatever changes that will help you best meet your goals and your students' needs.
4. **Include Your Story.** Don't hesitate to share about your decisions, experiences and lessons you personally learned about sexuality. Of course, keep your comments appropriate to the age group.
5. **Say What?** In the Leader's Guides, you will find content that follow phrases such as "Make the following points…" or "Make the following remarks…" This content isn't designed for you to read off the page verbatim, but rather as a guide to what we feel are the main points of what you should be trying to communicate. Read this content over, cut, paste, make it yours, create your own notes, and then say what you want to say–how you want to say it!

Each session of this series is divided into four sections:

Warm Up

This section utilizes a creative way to grab students' interest in the topic to be discussed.

Going Deeper

In this section you will help your students gain an understanding of the key concept(s) of the lesson.

In the Word

Studying the Scripture passages, students will gain an understanding of what the Bible says about issues relating to the Purity Code and be encouraged to see the relevance of the Scriptures to their lives.

Wrapping It Up

This section gives your students the opportunity to think through the issues at hand and to make decisions on how to apply what they've learned to their lives.

This material was written by Jim Liebelt, Senior Editor of Publications, HomeWord.
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