Angie's Marriage Column - November 5, 2014

Help with Pornography and Alcohol Addiction?

Ask Angie: Do you have any help or videos on husbands who are alcoholics and porn addicts? I've been watching your videos this weekend and haven't found any on these topics together. My husband has been into the porn now for about 8 years and we don't have sex anymore because I can no longer allow him to use my body to relive the porn he watched the night/day before. When he's drunk it is even worse. The drinking is bad enough, but coupled with perversion and being told that I need to lose more weight and work out more and eat less so I can look like one of those girls being raped is too much. I'm 56 and a size 8. I'm not overweight at all. I have chosen to stay with my alcoholic mostly for financial reasons. He says that God is okay with his drinking and says he is on his way to heaven. I don't even know what to say about that. We met in church and he hid his drinking from me for almost 2 years until we married and boy what an eye opener I had. We no longer do much together and I refuse to go out of town with him on any trips because all activities have to be centered around his nightly drinking. Then I'm either force to sit in a bar while he feeds his addiction or I'm trapped in a hotel room while he does it. So, I've chosen to no longer travel with him. Thank you for your ministry.

Heaven Ministries Guidance: We're so sorry that you are going through these terrible trials in your marriage. We know it hurts and you are in pain, so ask God to give you the faith and strength to get through it; Pray for your husband. You are doing the right thing by not going out of town with him.

Your husband is far away from God and lying to himself. People do this: they lie to themselves and believe the sin(s) they are serving are okay and justified. <u>God knows our hearts and that is what really matters.</u>

Many wives write in to our ministry in heartache and want to change their husbands, but wives cannot change the man they married. Your husband has to be the one to "repent" and seek forgiveness. You cannot do that for him. He needs to be the one to seek the truth. You cannot tell him to do it either because

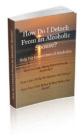
when people are enslaved by a sin <u>they need to voluntarily seek forgiveness and</u> accept Christ for themselves. IT IS BETWEEN THEM AND GOD.

However, there are many ways in which a spouse of an addicted person can be a positive force in the addicted person's life. Instead of being a punching bag for the addicted person, you need to learn how to detach from the cruelty that the addict can put out. Spouses are the people the addict sees and interacts with every day so they end up getting the brunt of the addict's abuse. It is very difficult and stressful living with an addicted person, but it can be done when you know what it is that you NEED to do to keep your sanity and emotions at a even keel.

Remember this: it is very important to your mental and emotional health:

Always, Always detach with love from the person who is addicted. It doesn't matter whether the person is addicted to gambling, food, sex, alcohol, drugs, etc...spouses of those who are in the midst of an addiction NEED to detach from it all, or they will go crazy. This is a serious matter. When spouses or loved ones detach, the addicted person is more likely to seek help for themselves and be

<u>healed!</u> This is the BEST thing you can do for the addicted person!!!



Our book *How Do I Detach from an Alcoholic Spouse* will outline ways to detach from the alcoholic and keep your sanity at the same time. You do not have to go down with the addicted person. SAVE YOURSELF SO they (the addicted person) will have a better chance at transformational healing!

How to Detach from an Alcoholic Spouse

http://www.heavenministries.com/paypalebooks/Detachfromalcoholicspouse.ht m

We have written a lot about addiction so please read through these encouraging resources and send along this marriage column to anyone who you think might need the encouragement.

Is Looking at pornography the same as adultery? -

http://www.heavenministries.com/articles2/is looking at pornography the sa measadultery.htm

Pornography Addiction: What Can a Wife Do? -

http://www.heavenministries.com/articles2/pornography_addiction%20WhatCan AWifeDo.htm

What Can a Man Do? -

http://www.heavenministries.com/articles2/pornography_addiction%20WhatCan AManDo.htm

Healing from Alcohol and Sex Addiction

http://www.heavenministries.com/AngiesMarriageColumns/Healingfromalcoholcandsexaddiction.pdf

To the addicted people: We all make choices in this life and a man reaps what he sows. God heals us if we allow Him into our lives. If we want to see positive fruits in our lives/marriage we must stop serving sin and start serving God; only then can we be the person/individual, whether married or single, that God asks us to be according to His instruction booklet, the bible. God shows us how to please Him and that is what the Christ-centered person should be striving for. God is inviting you in to His kingdom today!

A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Galatians 6:7-8

A MESSAGE TO WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR

Dear friend,

You are a child of God and your body belongs to Him. You might not think there is anything wrong with what you are doing but it does hurt YOU very much – you just don't know it. You are hurting yourself in a terrible way. Addiction damages the mind in spiritual and emotional ways that keep you from being the complete

and whole person God intends you to be. God loves you very much it and hurts him to see you hurting yourself.

Yes! God loves you even though you have an addiction to pornography. But God does not love the addiction or what it does to you and those you love. God wants you to go to Him with your problems – THAT'S how much He loves you!

Mentally and emotionally you are destroying the ability to handle life on life's terms when you keep hiding your problems behind a veil of addiction. You may think you're not hurting yourself or anyone else, but all addictions are progressive and can be more and more harmful as they advance.

Emotionally you are damaging the way you feel about yourself. Who are you? Are you someone who is addicted to porn and so have made that a part of who you are? Who are you? Are you a porn addict or are you a human being created in the image of God. If you are created in the image of God and a part of God's family, then what are you doing to yourself and those who love you?

If you are a child of God, what happened? Did you unintentionally let your guard down and now can't seem to pull yourself out of its trap? Tell God – Tell God you want out – He'll listen if He knows you really want to turn your life around. God knows your heart. God will listen.

Have you thought of the woman you married and how much you may be hurting her? Not only are you destroying yourself but also you are destroying the love built up between you and the woman you married. You may think you aren't hurting anyone else while you progress into addiction but you are, and you have. The woman you married is hurting and wounded by your addiction more than you will ever know. Words are not enough.

How much longer are you going to let this go on? You do not NEED this addiction. You CAN come out of the depths of addiction for good by LETTING IT GO AND GIVING IT TO GOD! Tell God you are ready to end addiction – let it go, and He will come to you and He will BE with you!

Blessings, Frank and Angie

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Do you have a marriage question that you want biblical answers to? Let us know and we'll pray about it, research it and answer it with the understanding and wisdom God has blessed us with. It's not what Frank or Angie can do for your marriage; it is between YOU and God. We're just the messengers.

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