

# Purity

## I. OPENER

Show your group a beautiful jug or other container. Describe to them its beauty, worth, etc. After all it can hold many delicious drinks. Pour some delicious juice in it. (Maybe orange juice or soda- something appealing). Find out who wants a drink of the juice/soda and why. Give the young person a drink and ask him/her how it was.

Now add one tiny teaspoon of sand, mud or any other disgusting item (some people actually add dog poop!) to the juice and now offer the same young person the drink. (Obviously don't let them drink it- most likely, he/she and the others will refuse to drink it). Emphasize how good the drink is and what other delicious substances are in the juice and how small an amount of the dirty substance is present in it. Most young people would refuse to drink it especially if the substance is something as disgusting as dog poop.

### OR

#### Activity:

People are to go outside and try to make themselves as dirty as possible then come back in groups outside and see who is dirtiest, then discuss how does it feel to be dirty etc.

Clean off then come back to discuss the difference. Get your group to write a song or poem about being a dirty and clean Christian.

## II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

## III. STORY

John is your average twelve year old who struggles with pornography. John is average in everyway, and to most seems like a nice kid. John's teachers, nor his family and friends know of his issues with porn. John's problems with porn are so hidden, that he worries about them being exposed one day and him losing his girlfriend. John does understand the meaning of purity, but yet cannot control his impurity, and his driven by his fleshly impure self.

## Study

### James

**1:2-9** "2Consider it a sheer gift, friends, when tests and challenges come at you from all sides. 3You know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colors. 4So don't try to get out of anything prematurely. Let it do its work so you become mature and well-developed, not deficient in any way.

5If you don't know what you're doing, pray to the Father. He loves to help. You'll get his help, and won't be condescended to when you ask for it. 6Ask boldly, believingly, without a second thought. People who "worry their prayers" are like wind-whipped waves. 7Don't

think you're going to get anything from the Master that way, <sup>8</sup>adrift at sea, keeping all your options open.

<sup>9</sup>When down-and-outers get a break, cheer!

**1:13-21** <sup>13</sup>Don't let anyone under pressure to give in to evil say, "God is trying to trip me up." God is impervious to evil, and puts evil in no one's way. <sup>14</sup>The temptation to give in to evil comes from us and only us. We have no one to blame but the leering, seducing flare-up of our own lust. <sup>15</sup>Lust gets pregnant, and has a baby: sin! Sin grows up to adulthood, and becomes a real killer.

<sup>16</sup>So, my very dear friends, don't get thrown off course. <sup>17</sup>Every desirable and beneficial gift comes out of heaven. The gifts are rivers of light cascading down from the Father of Light. There is nothing deceitful in God, nothing two-faced, nothing fickle. <sup>18</sup>He brought us to life using the true Word, showing us off as the crown of all his creatures.

*Act on What You Hear*

<sup>19</sup>Post this at all the intersections, dear friends: Lead with your ears, follow up with your tongue, and let anger straggle along in the rear. <sup>20</sup>God's righteousness doesn't grow from human anger. <sup>21</sup>So throw all spoiled virtue and cancerous evil in the garbage. In simple humility, let our gardener, God, landscape you with the Word, making a salvation-garden of your life.

## Questions

1. Suppose that you were not pure, how would this affect your life?
2. Why is it important that you be pure in everything?
3. In what ways can you in the next week become more pure?