

Pursuing Purity in Marriage with a Godly Purpose

NEIL AND CHERYL RONDORF

HAMPTON ROADS CHURCH OF CHRIST

NEIL - 757-270-4956 / NRONDORF@GMAIL.COM

CHERYL - 757-581-0608 / CRONDORF@GMAIL.COM

Christian Marriage

Genesis 2:18

- “The husband has far more potential for blessing his wife than most women ever dream”

(Every Heart Restored - Fred and Brenda Stoeker)

-Husbands: Walk in the image of God (Gen 1:27)
Stand proudly in His light
Trustworthy and fully Christian

-Wives: Draw along side him and help him rise up
Stand up for righteousness
“Not in my house, not in my marriage!”
(Deb Anton)

Sin is driven by EMOTION

- Gen 12:10-20 Abraham in Egypt - Emotion is Fear
- Creates his own solution > failure
- Yet there is reward? - more flocks - sin can create a perceived reward system
- Look at Pornography - excitement - relief (I did not get caught) forget guilt - remember the excitement.
- What is missing? God and righteousness!!

God as emotional resource

- Gen 16:1-7 Sarah and Abraham have a promise from God but develop their own solution
- Bad results with Hagar - poor decision all around
- Worse results with follow on solution for Hagar and Ishmael
- Gen 20: 1-7 Sarah / Abraham / Abimelech: Repeat of the cycle in Egypt even after God's repeat of the promise and witnessing power of God in rescue of Lot and destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah
- Where does God intend us to turn? Why don't we?

God is key to healing and recovery

- Gen 15:1 “ I am your shield and your very great reward”
- Here is the key to Abraham’s eventual growth and faith.
- This is what allowed Abraham to take Isaac up to the Mountain
 - “On the Mountain of the Lord, it shall be provided” Gen 22:14
 - Heb 11:19 Abraham reasoned God could even raise the dead
- Recognize Emotion / Deal with the Emotion (don’t hide from it)
- Turn to God for the real solution.

EXPOSURE / DISCOVERY / CONFESSION

- ◆ Multiple ways this can be exposed in a relationship (is there selfishness in your intimacy?)
- ◆ Much Damage has already been done - don't do more unintentionally in the effort to recover
- ◆ Doing it alone is first instinct and not always best (spouse will be hurt and needs support)
- ◆ Getting advice is a starter and should be done with another couple who understand this issue and can help from start.
- ◆ Spouses need to recover in their own way as well as the burdened party

The spouse's voice needs to be heard

Every Heart Restored - STOEKERS

- 1 Sam 25 - Abigail does what is right, not accepting her husband's sin
- Continual quiet submission can destroy communication between spouses
- Have you caught God's higher vision of marriage?
- Remember you are also your husband's sister in Christ. Are you willing to stand in the gap?
 - ([2 Timothy 1:7](#) For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline)
- Husbands - you need to listen to your spouse
- Wives - you have a right and responsibility to speak the truth in love with mercy

Tolerance vs Compassion

- Tolerance -1) willingness to accept something 2) capacity to endure 3) allowable amount of variation
 - John 5:14 “...See, you are well! Sin no more...”
 - John 8:11 ...“Then neither do I condemn you,” Jesus declared. “Go **now** and leave your life of **sin**.”
- Compassion - sympathetic pity and concern for the suffering or misfortune of others
 - Matt 9:36 When Jesus saw the crowds, he had **compassion** on them...
 - Col 3:12 Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with **compassion**, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Parenting for Purity

- How much do we discuss Purity etc with our kids?
- Deut 5 - the Ten Commandment (20% of content deal with righteous relationships)
 - #7 - adultery / # 10 - covet - #1 on list is neighbor's wife
- Deut 6:4-9 Teach them to your children
 - Talk about them constantly (not when they turn 13)
 - We have turned this over to schools and sports teams - this needs to be a constant family dynamic

Device Control

- **Covenant Eyes** - first on market - been around a long time / board in application
- **Ever Accountable** - Customize monitoring / Accountability reports
- **Detoxify** by Family First - PIN # controlled so can't uninstall / Accountability as well as Site Blacklist.
- **Accountable2U**
- Follow up on access and content - youthful curiosity and time will overcome the app if not monitored (there is a good chance your kids will become more efficient than you are)
- Start early - if they use a device / good chance you need a control

Training in Self Control

- Emotional self control is not a natural instinct (Gal 5: 22 Fruit of the Spirit - self control)
- Our culture influences us to just follow our emotions
- Device management must be learned at an early age
- Self denial is part of device management and self control
- 3 elements to shape character or drive change:
discipline / self control / training

Over Coming Strategies

John 10:10 Life to the full

- **“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full”**
- Physical Exercise - Helps deal with emotions
- Setting Boundaries - cut off temptations (develops self control)
- Identifying Triggers - emotional awareness (be in control)
- Scripture Memorization (changes direction of focus)
- One another encouragement (self vs service)
- Tempt Away in 60 Seconds - Guy Hammond
- If you do nothing, nothing changes

Resource / References

◆ PARENTING REFERENCES

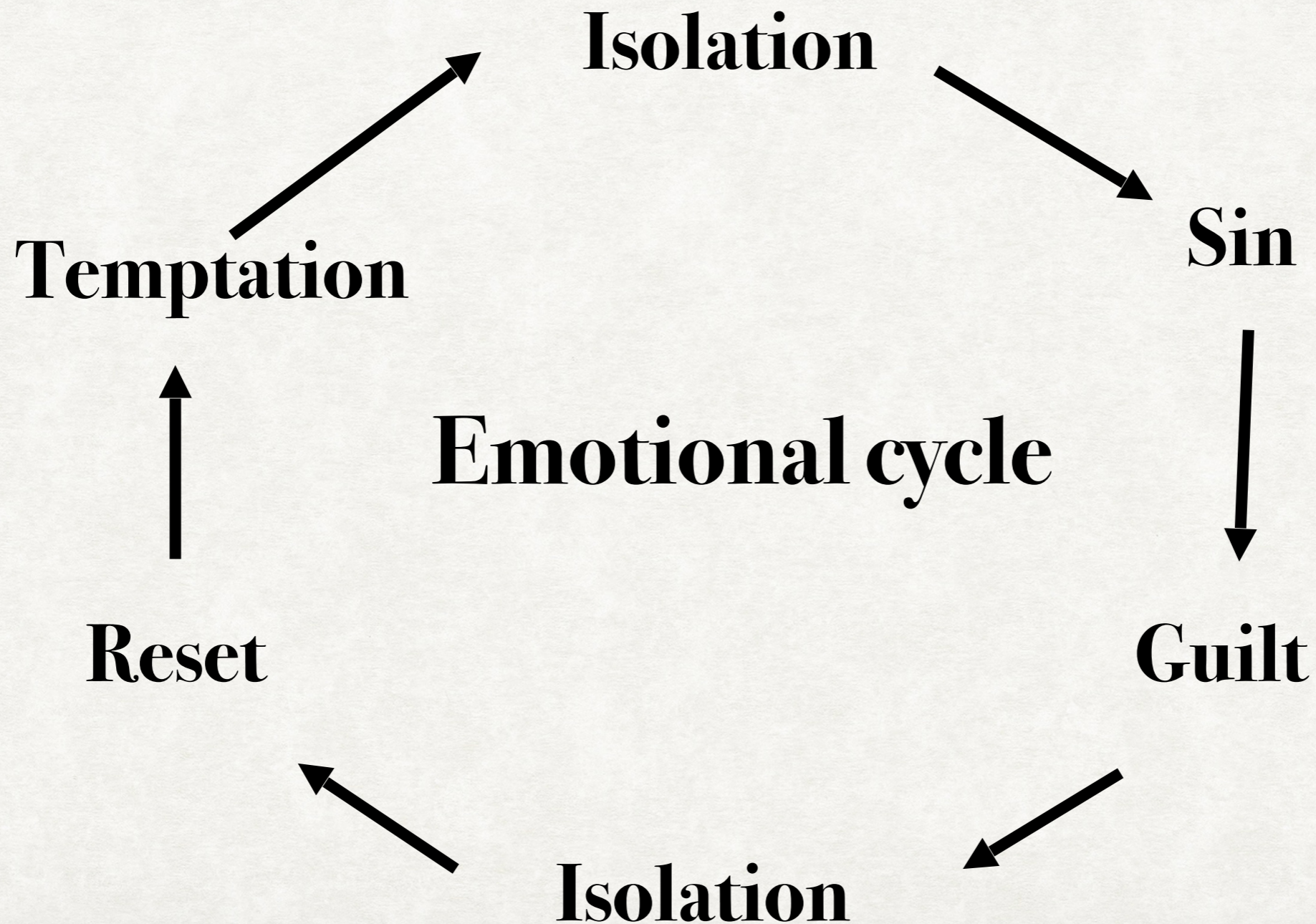
- ◆ *God's Design for Sex - 4 book set*
- ◆ *The Story of Me - Brenna Jones*
- ◆ *Before I was Born - Carolyn Nystrom*
- ◆ *Facing the Facts (the truth about sex and you) - Stan Jones*
- ◆ *What's the Big Deal? (Why God cares about sex) - Stan Jones*
- ◆ *How and When to tell your kids about Sex - Stan Jones*
- ◆ *Good Pictures Bad Pictures - Kristen Jenson*
- ◆ *Parenting the Internet Generation - e book*
- ◆ *Covenant Eyes Website*

Summary

- ❖ RECOGNIZE EMOTIONS AND DEAL WITH THEM / DON'T HIDE FROM THEM
- ❖ TURN TO OTHERS TO HELP YOU TURN TO GOD / CANNOT GO IT ALONE (THAT IS OUR DESIRE WITH ADDICTIVE TENDENCIES)
- ❖ BE SENSITIVE TO THE HURT / DAMAGE AND PROCEED WITH CAUTION
- ❖ PARENT WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF WHERE AND WHAT LEARNING IS PROVIDED BY DEVICES AND INTERNET
- ❖ GUIDANCE FOR DEVICE USE IS APPLICABLE TO ALL
- ❖ HOW CAN A YOUNG MAN KEEP HIS WAY PURE? BY GUARDING IT ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD - PS 119:9

Addictive Cycle

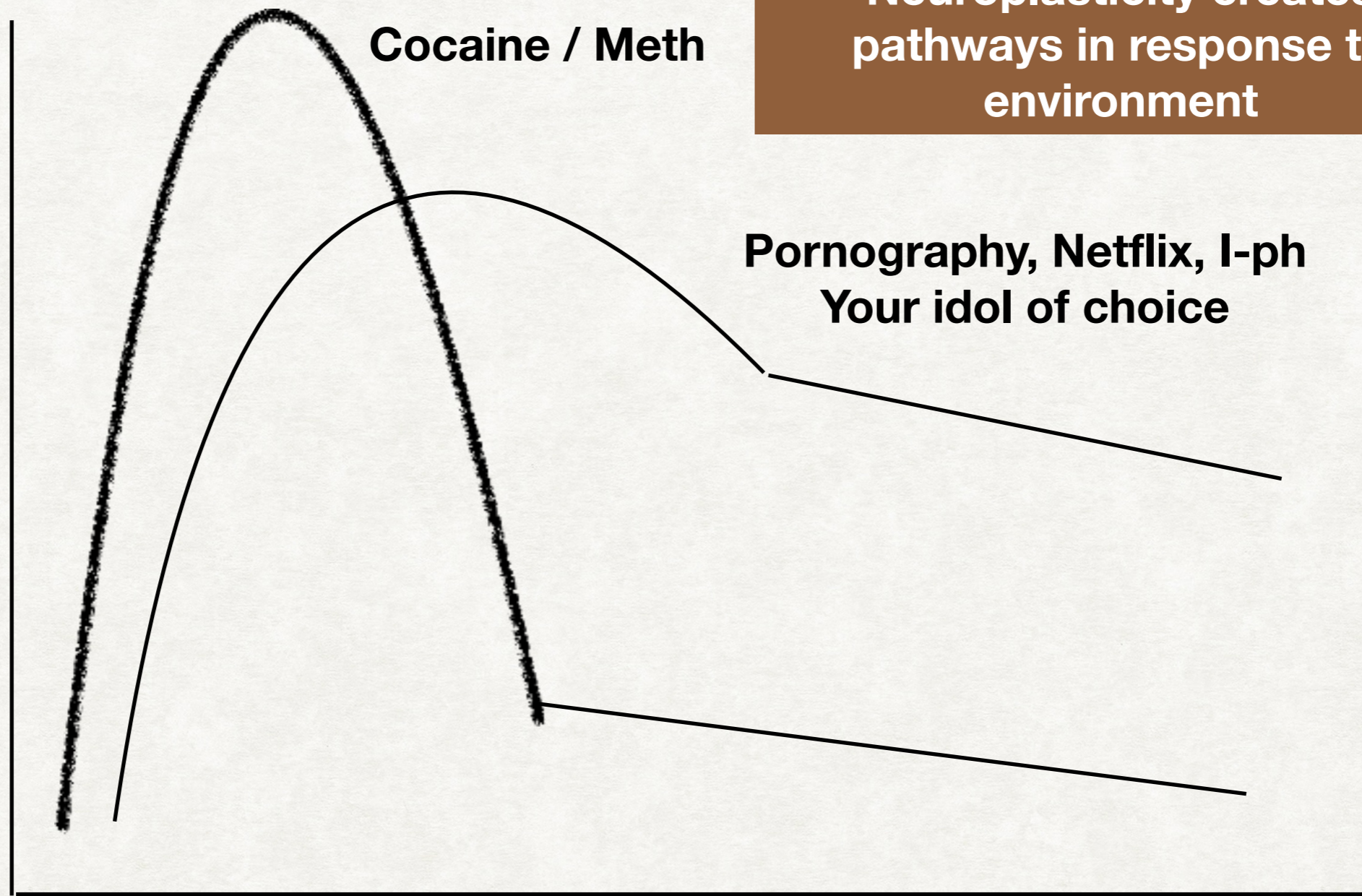
Dr Gerald May / Dr Patrick Carnes



DOPAMINE RESPONSE

Neuroplasticity creates pathways in response to environment

D
O
P
A
M
I
N
E



The overall dopamine release and duration is what creates the power

Neuroplasticity

Every decision is a building block
- what are you building?

