

Jesus is Lord!

We really do need each other!

Jerry D. Porter

PALCON

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We really do need each other

- Every pastor believes in “connection.”
- Connection to:
 - The Nazarene tribe
 - The Christian Church
 - To accountability partners
 - To God

We really do need each other

- To live a holy life
- To fulfill our Lord's great commandment and great commission
- To fulfill our ministerial calling

We celebrate God's call...

- 12-year old Jesus testified to his calling. (Luke 2)
- This was confirmed at his baptism. (Mat. 3)

Find a partner ... When did you first sense God's call to Christian ministry? How and when was that call confirmed?

God's highest calling for
me...

➤ To be like.

Jesus

A photograph of E. Stanley Jones, an elderly man with white hair and glasses, wearing a white shirt and a dark tie. He is speaking at a podium, with a microphone visible on the right. The background is dark. The text "E. Stanley Jones" is overlaid in yellow on the left side of the image.

**E. Stanley
Jones**

**Jesus
is
Lord!**

In the fullness of the Spirit

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wild. For forty wilderness days and nights he was tested by the Devil.

(Luke 4:1-2 TM)

In the fullness of the Spirit

“Satan and his angels go about seeking whom they can devour. If they tempted him (Christ), **will they not tempt us also?**”

“Almost Christian” John

Wesley

In the fullness of the Spirit

- Jesus was tempted.
- Spirit-filled ministers are tempted
- Temptation is not sin

In the fullness of the Spirit

“Christian perfection does not imply an exemption from ignorance or mistakes or infirmities or **temptation.**”

“Christian Perfection” John

Wesley

Sex

He ate nothing during those days, and when the time was up he was hungry. The Devil, playing on his hunger, gave the first test: “Since you’re God’s Son, command this stone to turn into a loaf of bread.” Jesus answered by quoting Deuteronomy: “It takes more than bread to really live.” (Luke 4:2-4 TM)

Sex

- God-given appetites are good
- Satisfying them **God's way**
gives life
- Satisfying them **man's way**
destroys

Power

For the second test he led him up and spread out all the kingdoms of the earth on display at once. Then the Devil said, "They're yours in all their splendor to serve your pleasure. I'm in charge of them all and can turn them over to whomever I wish.

Power

Worship me and they're yours, the whole works." Jesus refused, again backing his refusal with Deuteronomy: "Worship the Lord your God and only the Lord your God. Serve him with absolute single-heartedness." (Luke 4:5-8 TM)

Power

➤ We all have influence and power

➤ Abusive self-seeking power wounds

➤ Christ-centered influence empowers others

➤ Jesus is Lord!

Herd pressure

For the third test the Devil took him to Jerusalem and put him on top of the Temple. He said, “If you are God’s Son, jump. It’s written, isn’t it, that ‘he has placed you in the care of angels to protect you; they will catch you;

Herd pressure

You won't so much as stub your toe on a stone?" "Yes," said Jesus, "and it's also written, 'Don't you dare tempt the Lord your God.'" That completed the testing. The Devil retreated temporarily, lying in wait for another opportunity. (Lk 4:9-13 TM)

Herd pressure

- We belong to groups that provide identity and community
- **Peer pressure** can curse us.
- Living for God, I find my true identity
- **I can serve the herd** when I am free from the herd.

In the power of the Spirit

Jesus returned to Galilee powerful
in the Spirit. (Luke 4:14 TM)

➤ Victory through **radical**
surrender of sex, power, & herd

➤ Victory through **daily**
surrender of sex, power, & herd

Jesus is Lord!

➤ Holiness is a **love work of God's grace** that cleanses the radically surrendered heart.

Jesus is Lord!

- Holiness is a **love work of God's grace** that cleanses the radically surrendered heart.
- Holiness is also a **life-long growing love relationship** with God and others.

“There is no single act of faith that answers for all time. If we could get spiritual supplies for an extended period, perhaps we ... would forget to come to our Heavenly Father for that **companionship** which is of greater consequence than any detached ‘blessing’ which could possibly come to us.”

J. B. Chapman

Sexual Temptations The Silent Struggle



by Dr. Todd Frye

Internet Pornography

- \$1.5 billion USA pornography revenue/year
- 60% of all web traffic is pornographic
- 53% of Christians say pornography is a problem in the home
- 66% of Christian men struggle with pornographic sites

The threat of Internet pornography

- Accessible
- Affordable
- Anonymous
- Accidental

Dr. Al Cooper &
Dr. Mark Laaser



Why is it addictive?

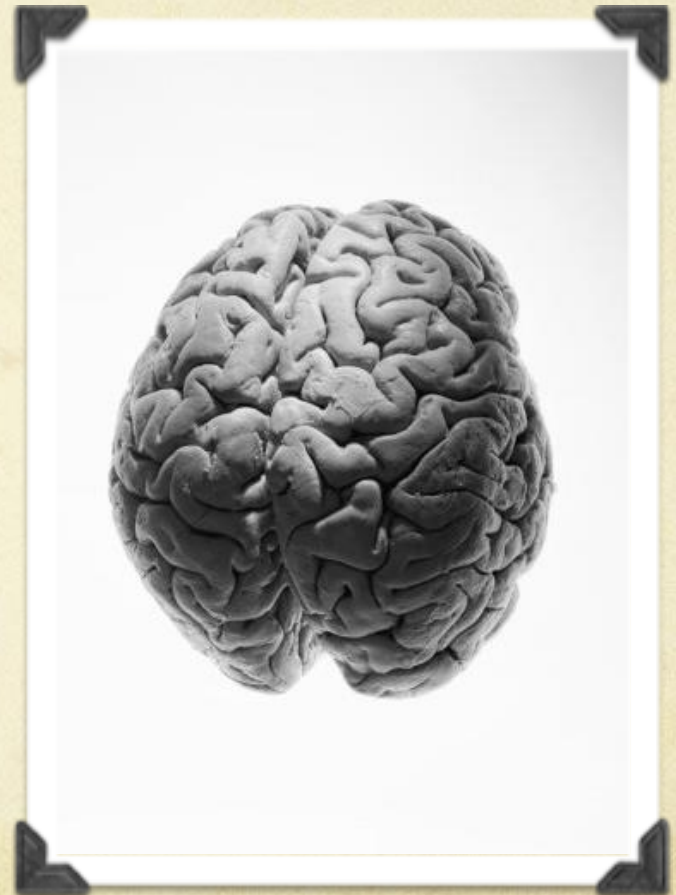
Biological &
Psychological
Addiction



Biological Addiction

Dopamine (pleasure)

Levels of **dopamine** during sexual arousal resemble what the brain looks like on heroin.



(Holstege, 2003)

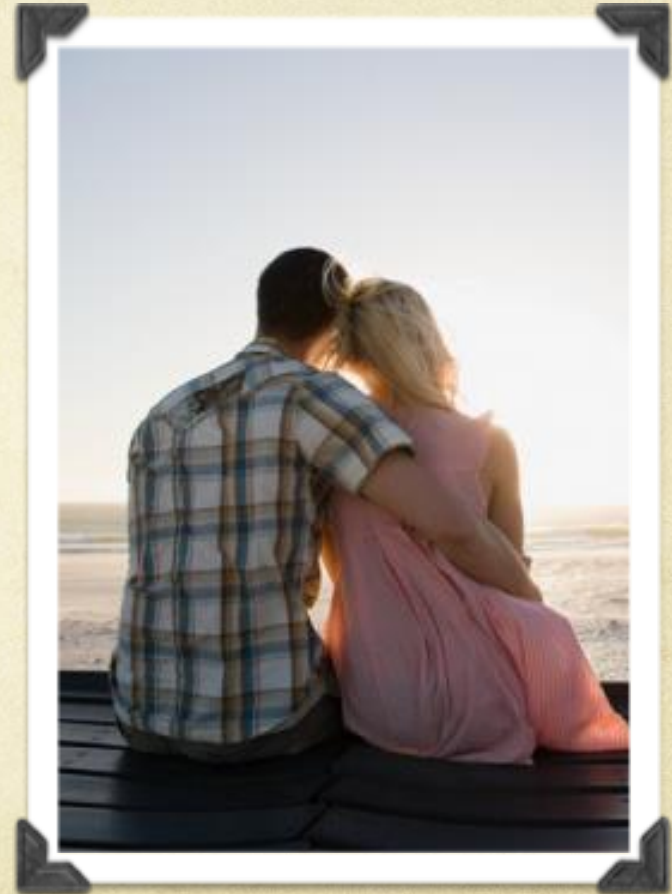
Adrenaline (excitement)

Adrenaline is present during times of high stimulation and risk taking.

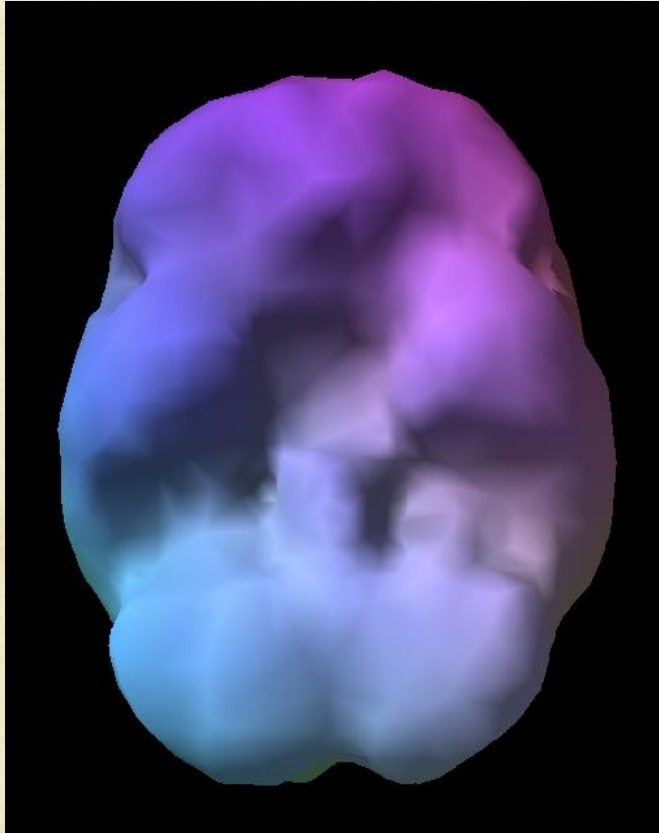


Oxytocine (connection)

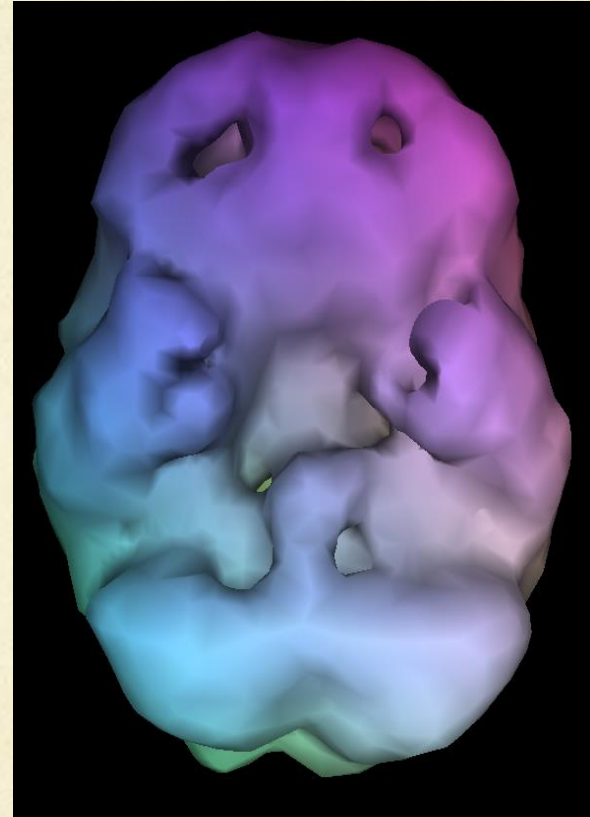
Oxytocine increases with caring affectionate touch and selfless lovemaking. Sustained production of oxytocin lowers cravings & calms us



Brain Chemistry



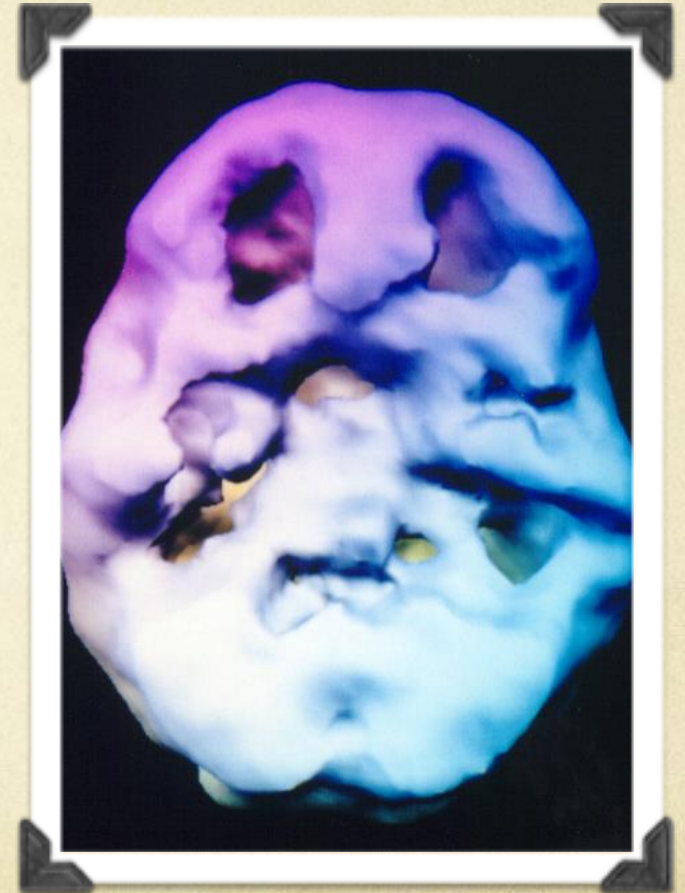
Normal



Pornography
Brain

Prefrontal Cortex Problems

- Short attention span & impulsivity
- Procrastination, poor judgment, & disorganization
- Lack of empathy



Psychological Addiction

- A pathological compensation for lack of connection
- Sexual fantasies include common elements of human connection: approval, acceptance, & desirability.

Connection

We really do need each other!

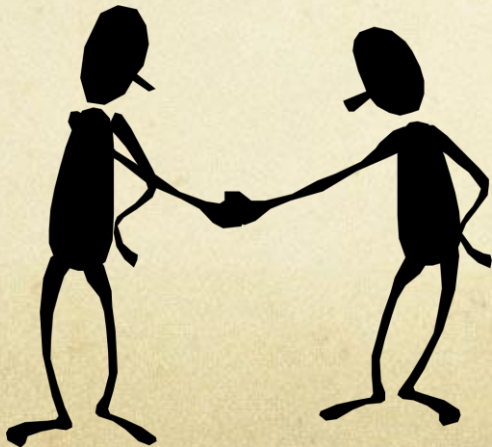
- When we lack healthy connections we attempt to compensate with an imaginary sexual partner.
- Fantasies can generate beliefs about worthiness and affirmation.



The Antidote is

Healthy

Relationships!



Resources

1. "The Pornography Trap" by Dr. Mark Laaser
2. "The Sexual Man" by Dr. Archibald Hart
3. "Healing the Wounds of Sexual Addiction" by Dr. Mark Laaser
4. "Out of the Shadows" by Patrick Carnes
5. "When Good Men are Tempted" by Bill Perkins
6. "L.I.F.E. Guide for Men" by Dr. Mark Laaser
7. "Every Man's Battle" by Stephen Arterburn
8. "Every Heart Restored" by Stephen Arterburn
(particularly for women whose husbands struggle with pornography)
9. "Every Young Man's Battle" by Stephen Arterburn
(particularly for teenagers)

➤ With your dialog partner,
what do these words
mean to you?

➤ Transparency

➤ Integrity

➤ Righteousness

➤ Holiness

- Overcoming temptations
- No minister left behind!
- We really do need each other!

Overcoming temptations

The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and **we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.** (2 Cor. 10:4-5 NIV)

Overcoming temptations

- Spiritual Weapons
- Name of Jesus
- Blood of Jesus

Overcoming temptations

➤ Spiritual Weapons

➤ Name of Jesus

➤ Blood of Jesus

➤ Word of God

➤ Prayer

➤ Praise

Overcoming temptations

➤ Spiritual Weapons

- Name of Jesus
- Blood of Jesus
- Word of God
- Prayer
- Praise
- Our testimony

Overcoming temptations

➤ Spiritual Weapons

➤ Name of Jesus

➤ Blood of Jesus

➤ Word of God

➤ Prayer

➤ Praise

➤ Our testimony

➤ Spiritual accountability partners

Overcoming temptations

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, **he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.**

(1 Cor. 10:13 NIV)

Overcoming temptations

“Temptation knocked at my door, I asked Christ to answer, and no one was there.”

“The Way” E. Stanley Jones

In the power of the Spirit

His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises,

In the power of the Spirit

so that through them **you may participate in the divine nature** and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires:

(2 Peter 1:3-4 NIV)

Jesus is Lord!

- We really do need significant “others” to live the holy life.
- Disciplers and disciples who hold me accountable as together we follow Christ!

Jesus is Lord!

Prayer time

Prayer time

Adoration
Confession
Supplication



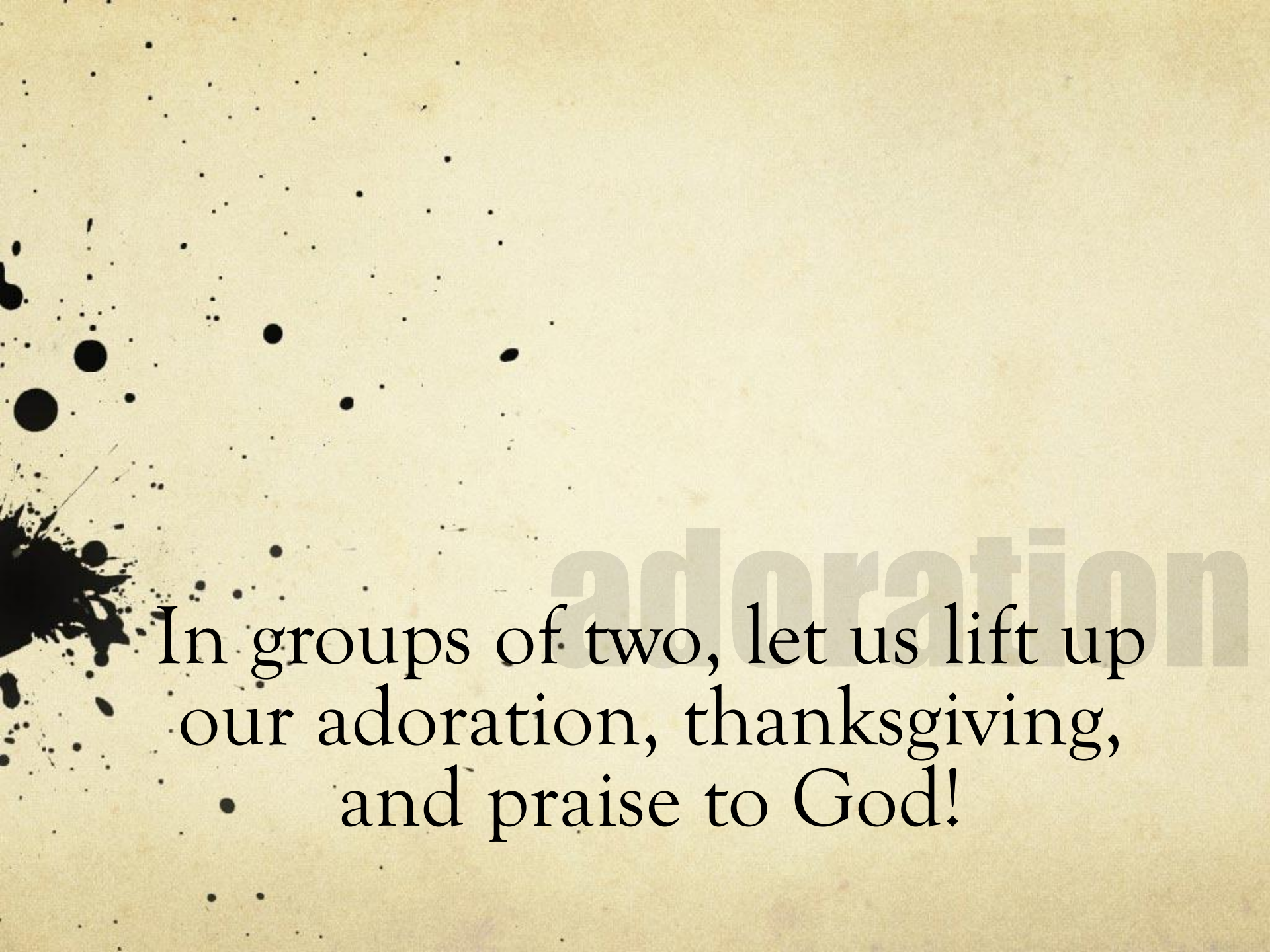
adoration

I will bless the Lord at all times:
his praise shall continually be in
my mouth. My soul shall make
her boast in the Lord: the humble
shall hear thereof, and be glad. O
magnify the Lord with me, and let
us exalt his name together.

(Psalms 34:1-3 KJV)



adoration



In groups of two, let us lift up
our adoration, thanksgiving,
and praise to God!



confession

Are you hurting? Pray. Do you feel great? Sing. Are you sick? Call the church leaders together to pray and anoint you with oil in the name of the Master. Believing-prayer will heal you, and Jesus will put you on your feet.

And if you've sinned, you'll be forgiven—healed inside and out. Make this your common practice:

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. (James 5:13-16 NIV)



confession

With your partner ... confess to
which temptation you are most
vulnerable!

confession

With your partner ... confess to
which temptation you are most
vulnerable!

Sex
Power
Herd pressure

confession



supplication

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone ... that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. (1 Tim 2:1-4

NIV)



supplication

I eagerly expect and hope that **I will in no way be ashamed**, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

(Phil. 1:20-21 NIV)



supplication

Pray that your dialog partner will be strengthened to fulfill his/her calling with victory.

Pray that Satan will be embarrassed in the heavenly realms because of what Jesus does in your partner's life and ministry.



Jesus is Lord!



