

Job 31:1 (NIV) I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a girl.

A growing relationship with your spouse will reduce the pull and attraction of pornography and adultery. The phrase “[he] knew his wife” is a Biblical euphemism for sexual intercourse (Genesis 4:1). A similar concept is found in the phrase “one flesh” (Matthew 19:6). For sex to be all God intended it to be, it must occur in a marriage relationship based on mutual devotion, respect, communication and absolute loyalty.



“One question before I start...would you rather snuggle up to hard, lumpy muscles or soft, comfortable flab?”



“Typing ‘sup?’ in a text message does not count as a love letter!”

1 Corinthians 7:3 (JB) The husband must give his wife what she has the right to expect, and so too the wife to the husband.

**On a scale of 1 (low) to 5 (high),** how successful have you been in the battle against “parasites” (addictions) that threaten your marriage? \_\_\_\_\_

## THE LOVE DARE CHALLENGE:

End it now. Identify every object of lust in your life and remove it. Single out every lie you’ve swallowed in pursuing forbidden pleasure and reject it. Don’t allow lust to live in a secret corner of your heart. Kill it today!

*Now, commit to implementing it this week in a practical way!*

## THE ULTIMATE DATE NIGHT, PART TWO

Join us on Saturday evening, March 28, at 7:00 here at Capital Community Church as dozens of couples renew their wedding vows to mark their completion of *The Love Dare*. A meaningful one-hour ceremony featuring beautiful music, free photography for each couple, wedding cake and punch.

## Part 4 - His Needs / Her Needs



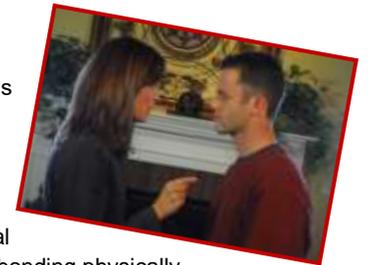
One of the personal turning points for Caleb Holt in the movie *Fireproof* is when he finally confronts his addiction to pornography. Although he has become a Christian, a pop-up ad tempts him to click on a porn site while he is browsing the Internet. He struggles with going back to his old habit, and turns to *The Love Dare* for help with resisting temptation. He is on Day 23 ...

“Watch out for parasites. A parasite is anything that latches onto you or your partner and sucks the life out of your marriage. They’re usually in the form of addictions, like gambling, drugs, or pornography. They promise pleasure but grow like a disease and consume more and more of your thoughts, time, and money. They steal away your loyalty and heart from those you love. Marriages rarely survive if parasites are present. If you love your spouse, you must destroy any addiction that has your heart. If you don’t, it will destroy you.”



Psychologists increasingly encounter not only marriages devastated by pornography, but many individuals so scarred by porn that they lack the very capacity to engage in normal relationships. Ironically, people who become addicted to this “risk-free” form of sexual activity run a far greater risk – the loss of their ability to be content with a normal sexual partner in a normal marriage, and ultimately the loss of their own happiness.

The “sex without persons” that pornography offers is a dangerous dismissal of God’s divine design for sex in the first place. God gave the gift of sex to be expressed only within the intimacy and holiness of marriage for the threefold purpose of procreation (having children – Genesis 1:28), recreation (mutual enjoyment – Proverbs 5:18-19), and identification (bonding physically, psychologically and spiritually as “one flesh” – Genesis 2:24). Pornography accomplishes absolutely none of God’s purposes, and it can be empirically demonstrated that it also serves as a diabolical gateway to many other problems.



*Tonight, we will discover how meeting the needs of our spouses will protect them!*



# TODAY IS DAY 24 OF THE LOVE DARE!

Love is \_\_\_\_\_.

- It is a choice, not a feeling.
- It is an action, not a reaction.
- It can be given even if it is not deserved.
- It can be given even if it is not returned.

Love always protects from \_\_\_\_\_.

Hidden \_\_\_\_\_ damage healthy \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ is an attempt to meet legitimate needs in illegitimate ways.

**Ephesians 5:28 (NLT)** *In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man is actually loving himself when he loves his wife.*

**1 Peter 3:7 (NLT)** *In the same way, you husbands must give honor to your wives. Treat her with understanding as you live together. She may be weaker than you are, but she is your equal partner in God's gift of new life. If you don't treat her as you should, your prayers will not be heard.*

\_\_\_\_\_ is the art of studying each other for the purpose of pleasing each other.

**1 Corinthians 7:3 (GN)** *A man should fulfill his duty as a husband, a wife should fulfill her duty as a wife, and each should satisfy the other's needs.*

FIVE NEEDS OF MEN	FIVE NEEDS OF WOMEN
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.

**1 Corinthians 7:2-5 (NLT)** *But because there is so much sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman should have her own husband. The husband should not deprive his wife of sexual intimacy, which is her right as a married woman, nor should the wife deprive her husband. The wife gives authority over her body to her husband, and the husband also gives authority over his body to his wife. So do not deprive each other of sexual relations. The only exception to this rule would be the agreement of both husband and wife to refrain from sexual intimacy for a limited time, so they can give themselves more completely to prayer. Afterward they should come together again so that Satan won't be able to tempt them because of their lack of self-control.*

## 1. Due to sexual immorality, each person should \_\_\_\_\_

Sexual immoralities are simply the multiple ways you seek to have your sex drive fulfilled; when your sex drive is satisfied, immoralities are relieved. And marriage is God's plan to provide for our sex drives in a way that pleases Him. Therefore, He considers marriage "holy."

## 2. Married partners are to fulfill their \_\_\_\_\_

Don't withhold from your partner the only acceptable means of fulfilling their sexual needs! When you get married, God sovereignly takes something away from you and gives it as a heavenly wedding present to your spouse – the authority you had over your own body.

The Bible teaches: (1) that sex is not dirty or sinful, (2) that it is given for pleasure and not just to produce children, (3) that it is not to be used as a reward or a punishment, and (4) that it is not an optional part of marriage depending on one's moods or preferences.

## 3. God commands you to stop depriving each other of \_\_\_\_\_

Biblically, you may only "deprive each other" of sex under four conditions: (1) when you both agree on it, (2) when it is for a limited time, (3) when you are temporarily devoting yourself more fully to prayer, (4) when you agree to come together again soon.

If you do deprive each other, the Bible warns that you open yourself to sexual temptation because of your lack of self-control. Continued postponement or withholding of sexual relations within marriage places very real and very unnecessary pressure on your mate.

Affection is the \_\_\_\_\_. Sex is the \_\_\_\_\_.

The typical husband doesn't understand his wife's need for affection any more than the typical wife understands her husband's need for sex.