



Essential Evangelization

Chastity

“The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord.....Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you?” St. Paul is writing to the Corinthians in our Second Reading today to clarify an important commandment. In Corinth, the new Christians tried to rationalize that *the sexual practices of the day* were also part of the new found Christian liberty that Paul preached. But Paul is very clear in his letter that we need to “shun immorality” and “glorify God” by our bodies since we were united to Christ in our Baptism.

In today’s very loose mass media including the Internet, television, movies and advertising, it is easy to be tempted otherwise. The world and the Devil cleverly *devalue the idea that chastity and sex are something reserved only for marriage. We can find ourselves abusing sex like the abuse of drugs and alcohol. True gifts given to us by God should not be used in excess and for purely selfish motives.*

When our hearts are pure we improve our relationship with Jesus, and thus are more open to His Spirit within us. The saints were good evangelizers due to their pure hearts and winsome love for the Lord and others. We can do it too!!!

“For you were bought with a price..... therefore glorify God with your body.”
St. Paul, 1 Corinthians 6: 20

*This is one of a series of articles on
Evangelization from the
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