

Point Man

Chapter 3

Real Men Don't

Let's cut the double talk and put the cards on the table. **Real men don't commit adultery!**

An *affair* is an escape from reality or a search for meaning outside the marriage. It usually starts with discontent. We feel we are entitled to happiness.

Adultery is leaving behind your responsibilities...**Real men don't have affairs because they are responsible. Real men keep their commitments.** Even when your personal needs are not being met the way that you would hope. Even when you are disappointed in your wives for some reason. And that is precisely the time when we need to be on our guard more than ever.

It is what we do in these easy situations that will either make or break you. If you don't make the right choices here, within a matter of weeks or even days you are going to get emotionally hooked.

Whether you mean to or not, you will begin to compare her with your wife, and your wife is going to lose. Why will your wife lose? Because if there are needs in your life that your wife is not currently meeting, and this woman has a great deal of respect and interest in you, your wife can't help but come in second.

The attraction is simply this: You are tired of fighting the battle at home and with this new companion there is no battle.

"We are in the greatest danger of all when we think we are safe. When a guy begins to think that this could never happen to him, then he needs to think again."

The *lure of adultery* is that another woman will truly meet your needs. The *lie of adultery* is that no other woman on the face of the earth, no matter how alluring, interesting, or beautiful, has the capacity to fully meet the needs of another human being. That's why *adultery* is the "ultimate hoax." It promises what it cannot deliver. If you are on the freeway looking for true happiness DO NOT take the exit marked "*Adultery.*" It may look like a good shortcut, but it's actually a DEAD END!

Real men protect themselves against adultery. **Real men** think about the consequences of such an act. As they do, they ponder the facts, NOT the fantasies. They consider the long-term implications of having a *fling or affair*. They count the cost.

Forgiveness is available to all. But *forgiveness* does not automatically restore the privilege of leadership. Let me offer a critical principle: In the New Testament, ***forgiveness is free, but leadership is earned.*** It is earned by the power of a man's life. Sin although forgiven has other practical consequences. A mature, spiritual leader who sins and repents is forgiven, but he is not exempt from the series of aftershocks that will come his way from his sin and disobedience.

The offices of husband and father are character professions and character matters! In our culture we have become desensitized to sin and try to make excuses and rationalize our actions/behavior and sin. We CANNOT compromise our Biblical standards or sin will no longer offend us. A sinner can repent, but stupid is forever!

Righteousness must not only be found in our pulpits, but in our homes. The home is the church in miniature, and every Christian father has been appointed pastor of his own home. Christian men, whether they are leading in the church or in their home, must seek after righteousness.

Bible references:

1 Corinthians 7:1-5