



Leaders Planning Workbook

Start Your Battle Against Pornography

A secret war is raging in churches.

Pornography use is causing casualties among congregants and church leaders alike, and it proceeds unchecked.

The toll of this war mounts daily: faith lost, families broken, and churches split and abandoned.

Like an army asleep in tents when the enemy strikes, the Church is unprepared and unaware until it's too late. While their brothers and sisters are taken, many deny it: that isn't a problem here!

But the pastors and church leaders who have comforted the wounded and mourned the lost know better. They look to the ongoing war and feel overwhelmed.

In a generation's time, how many faithful will be shackled? What pain will that mean for God's kingdom? The Church is an army, and it is time for it to be called up to the battle. It needs its pastors to lead in this fight. It needs training, gear, and preparation. Every church needs a plan and allies.

This is the business and the mission of Covenant Eyes. For us to succeed in transforming culture on this topic, we must come to the aid of churches that are ready to fight.

What are three things you hope to learn from this session:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

“Addressing the greatest threat to the Church today—pornography—could also be our greatest opportunity for revival and growth.”—Josh McDowell

Icebreaker Questions

Before We Begin

We understand that pornography is not the only important topic Pastors are addressing in the Church. With so many demands and limits on your time we want to help you think about the most feasible approach to addressing this topic in an effective way in the Church. The questions below allow you and your team to self-reflect on time, money and people resources as it relates to a program for the church.

Where does pornography rank on your list of threats to the health of your ministry?

Very Important

Important

Not Important

How do you think your church will respond to the topic of pornography being discussed?

Very Comfortable

Somewhat Comfortable

Not Comfortable

What programs, events, or sermons have you found on the topic of pornography?

Icebreaker Questions

How did it go? What did you learn?

Do you have staff, a team, or volunteers to help you with this topic?

Yes

No

When thinking about time, money, and people resources available to help you with this program, what level of engagement do you think would be right for you and your Church at this time?

- Small Engagement** - limited time and people resources, not a topic church is totally comfortable with yet, desire to start slow. Action steps are easy hand-offs such as educational resources and software. Plug and play programs to get the conversation started in the church.
- Medium Engagement** - have a passionate staff member or volunteer ready to assist, desire to engage existing small groups, have talked about topic in the past and ready for next step. Time defined trainings that lead to more commitment.
- High Engagement** - church wide programs, many volunteers/staff willing to assist, roll out recovery groups, cultural changes.

Pastors and Leaders

Pastors and their leadership teams will fall into two primary categories. Those who have struggled with pornography in the past and recognize it as serious issue, or know someone personally who has and those who have not struggled with pornography, and have little to no experience dealing with the topic. With that in mind here are some best practices to help prep you and your team start off on the right foot.

Read The Healing Church Book from Covenant Eyes - a great way to level up your team's knowledge and aspirational goals for addressing porn is to do a team book review of this new book. It allows all staff members/volunteers to get a solid foundation on how pornography is reaching into the pews and harming men, women, marriages and families. www.TheHealingChurch.com

Teach it from the front - Pastor, if you're not comfortable speaking about sex and purity in a grace-filled, relevant, comfortable way, then find someone who will.

Lead by example - God will not use a dirty cup. Pastors and anyone in church leadership do not miss this. You cannot possibly hope to lead your people into purity if you are stuck in the muck of sexual sin. Model accountably, teach it to your leaders, and pass it on to your congregation.

Create a safe, grace-filled, hospital type Church - when the Spirit starts stirring in the hearts of your people, be ready to provide safe environments for your people to confess and find healing (and, don't forget that women need healing from addiction and as spouses of addicts, too)



Need more help? - Scan the code and use password: **[fivestoneschurch!](https://www.fivestoneschurch.com)** to access the digital tools that came with your 5 Stones Kit, and utilize the helpful resources.

www.covenanteyes.com/5-stones-digital-assets/

Discussion Questions

Have you done any training with your leadership on the topic of pornography and what to do when someone comes to them for help?

Do you have a plan to help staff or volunteers who struggle with pornography? Why or why not?

Planning for Success

Deciding where to start can be difficult. Here are some things to consider:

- Is your church ready to receive this message?
- Do you and your helpers have enough time to devote to the work?
- Does your staff and/or volunteers understand how to address someone who comes to them for help?
- Do you have programs ready to support men, women, spouses, female strugglers, teens, and couples?
- Selecting a level of commitment that is right for you and your church.

Levels of Commitment

Small Investment Level (Limited time, staff or resources, but desire to help)

- Strive for Men (recovery/education)
- Ready Leader Guidebooks (education for pastors/staff/volunteers)
- Restored Vows for Couples (recovery/education)
- The Victory App by Covenant Eyes (accountability software)

Medium Investment Level (existing small groups, a champion or staff to help)

- Safe Haven Sunday- one weekend focus on topic
- Life Change Small Group Workbook (recovery/education/men and women)

High Investment Level

- Want to launch recovery groups - Life Change Small Groups
- Healing Church Leadership Training
- Launch a recovery group like Celebrate Recovery or church developed program

Communicate With Your Congregation

- 1. Let your congregation know about plans and what to expect.
- 2. Share your expectations, policies and restorations plans. The church is watching.
- 3. Model accountably and grace. Teach it, preach it in all demographics, no one is immune, be consistent.
- 4. Be as vulnerable as you can, share testimonies when appropriate.

If you'd like more information or have additional questions, choose one of the options below to contact our team:



Email church@covenanteyes.com



Book a meeting with the Church Team

Men and Women

Christian husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, and church leaders are having their hearts and minds captured by porn. And the impact is more destructive than we think. Even if a church offers a program to help, only those in crisis typically come while others stay away fearing the shame it could bring. They don't know who else will witness their disclosure of their embarrassing sin. We need to make church a safe place, a place where we acknowledge that we are all broken and fall short.

Discussion Questions

In what way have you addressed pornography use by men AND women in the Church? From the pulpit, small groups, recovery groups?

In what ways are you creating safe places for men and women to seek help, restoration, and healing?

What are some of the biggest roadblocks to addressing pornography in your men and women's ministries?

Spouses, Singles, Gen Z, and Families

Teach it at all levels – from men’s ministry to youth ministry, and everything in-between, weave the discussion of biblical sexuality, pornography and related topics in the fiber of those groups.

Pour into singles – listen to the needs of your single audience. Most pastors have no appreciation for the challenges faced by singles in a sexualized culture.

Invest in the pre-wedding more than the wedding – require that engaged couples be mentored and repent of sexual sin long before they are locked into a wedding day they truly aren’t ready for.

Educate and engage your parents to take up this fight – The problem is, many parents are too afraid to talk to their kids about sex because they don’t want to say “too much too soon.” Unfortunately, “too much too soon” often turns into “too little too late.” Help parents be proactive, teach them how to have these tough conversations that matter.

Support spouses – Spouses need a safe place to seek help and healing. Make sure you have programs, resources, and support for spouses.

Discussion Questions

Do you believe your small group structures foster safe, healing environments for people to talk about tough issues like pornography? Why or why not?

What books, curriculum, or events have you offered for specific demographics in the Church to talk about biblical sexuality, pornography, lust, and sexual brokenness? How did they work? What would you do differently?

What programs and resources have you used to help parents talk about pornography and the dangers online?

The Need for Accountability in the Church

Accountability is often an overused and misunderstood word in the church however it is a vital piece to walking in sexual integrity. First, it's Biblical! As Romans 14:12 states "so then each of us will give an account of himself to God" and again in Hebrews 4:13 "No creature is hidden from him, but all things are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give an account". Scripture also calls us into accountability as the body of Christ, James 5:16 "Therefore 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."

We have no problem talking about accountability when it comes to things like fitness, diet, sports, work, coaching etc. but when it comes to sexual sins, lust, pornography it's not common. Let's consider one of the most dangerous places we go every single day, and our children go, is online. Yet we do nothing to put guardrails on our hearts and minds in a place where temptation runs wild.

Have you ever taught on the biblical principal of accountability? Was it effective?

Samples of Church Activation Plans

Month/Season	Activity/Event
Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Porn Education for Staff- Professional Development - Read the Healing Church as Team • Work with leaders to establish activation plan or levels for the coming year
Winter/Spring	<p>Safe Haven Sunday Kickoff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sermon Series: Let's Talk About the Elephant in the Room • Small Group Kick-Off (6 weeks) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Men/Women: Life Change Workbook/Study • Parent Internet Education Night (included in the Safe Home Kit, or have a speaker from Covenant Eyes come in)
June	<p>Summer Family Digital Detox</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7-day digital detox program your church can do to kick off summer and get outdoors. Free by Covenant Eyes
July	<p>Book Club - offer your church a list of good books to read over the summer to help them sharpen their skills as parents, spouses, and more. See recommended book list.</p>

For more examples to help build your own plans for your Church or organization, choose one of the options below to contact our team:



Email church@covenanteyes.com



Book a meeting with the Church Team

Resources for Pornography Recovery for Churches

Men's Resources



STRIVE

A 21-day detox from porn by Covenant Eyes has transformed the lives of men from all around the world. It is a step-by-step plan to finally break free from porn, delivered each day. Powerful videos, challenges, live events, a free trial to Covenant Eyes, and a world-wide community included.



Your Brain on Porn: 5 Proven Ways Pornography Warps Your Mind

Our culture is highly sexualized, and in many cases, pornography use is actually glorified. But research shows that pornography use actually changes the way you think. Download this ebook to learn the five proven ways pornography warps your brain and three biblical ways to renew your mind.



Life Change Workbook

The Life Change Workbook (Life Change: A Biblical Journey to Freedom) is a substantive, yet easy to read, 12-week biblical study for individuals or groups seeking an introduction for quitting porn.



Why You Really Turn to Porn

This course will unveil secret hurts we ignore and how we can begin to heal so that we stop using porn for good.

Women's Resources



Arise: Porn Recovery for Women, by Covenant Eyes

Arise is a 21-day video program designed to help women break free from unwanted porn use and find sexual healing. Join Beth Davis and other caring women from around the world who are learning together and supporting one another.



Porn and Your Husband, by Covenant Eyes

Discovering your husband uses porn may be one of the most emotionally devastating experiences of your life. You may wonder if you did something wrong, or why you didn't notice the signs, or whether you will ever be able to trust him again. This book looks at tough questions and teaches practice tips for bringing healing and reconciliation.



Hope After Porn, by Covenant Eyes

In this free ebook, Hope After Porn, you will read stories from four women who have personally known the devastation pornography can cause in a marriage. They give readers a glimpse of the betrayal, the hurt, and the choices they made to try and make a difference.



New Fruit: A Woman's Guide to Porn Recovery, by Covenant Eyes

One of the biggest lies women who struggle with porn face is that they're all alone. It's not true. Recent research revealed that at least 30% of women struggle with porn on a regular basis. No matter how long you've suffered silently, trying desperately to break free, there's hope.

Women's Resources Cont'd



The Unique Ways Women Struggle with Porn

This course, cowritten by Crystal Renaud Day of She Recovery and Lisa Eldred of Covenant Eyes, helps women understand why they turn to porn and some key ways to find lasting freedom.



Rebuilding Trust Through Boundaries

If your spouse uses porn, one of the most important ways to help him (or her) is to set boundaries. This course will walk you through several common boundaries and help you set them in your own marriage.

Parents/Families



Equipped: Raising Godly Digital Natives

Equipped is short enough to read while waiting for your son's orthodontist visit to finish, but full of our best tips for helping you guide your children through a pornified world. In this ebook, we will show parents how to have honest conversations about self-image, sexuality, sin, and shame, provide proven methods for training our children how to be media literate, and more.



Confident: Helping Parents Navigate Online Exposure

When a parent discovers her child or teenager has been looking at pornography, it can be alarming, hurtful, even frightening. In the confusion of the moment, it is important for parents to understand that these are not uncharted waters.



Connected: How Strong Family Relationships Lead to Internet-Safe Kids

Connected is a proactive resource that explores how a strong family connection can protect children and teens from the dangers of hidden pornography use. It contains real-life stories and practical tips for maintaining or re-establishing connection in your family. Connected will strengthen your relationship with God, your spouse, and your children, so your family can live free of pornography.



The Secret to Porn-Proofing Your Kids

Parenting style is a major factor in developing resiliency in kids, which influences all kinds of behaviors. Here's how to parent well.

Other Resources



The Covenant Eyes Podcast

Each episode features engaging conversations with thought leaders, ministry leaders, cybersecurity experts, therapists, and individuals who have triumphed over or helped others find freedom from sexual brokenness. We dive deep into topics like pornography, marriage, betrayal trauma, culture, parental controls, and the importance of accountability in the virtual realm.



40-Day Challenge

The 40 Day Challenge is a focused, step-by-step email series designed to help you put porn behind you forever. Each day, you'll receive an email with: Articles that will educate you and encourage you on the road to freedom, exclusive video content and practical action steps to retrain your brain.



8 Role Models for Pastors in Recovery

More than half of ministry leaders say they struggle with pornography. You are not alone. This course, written by a pastor for pastors, will unpack eight recovery themes, each based on a key biblical character.

