



**SEXUAL TEMPTATION**  
ESTABLISHING GUARDRAILS AND WINNING THE BATTLE

**RANDY  
ALCORN**

# **SEXUAL TEMPTATION**

Establishing Guardrails and Winning the Battle

Randy  
Alcorn

Eternal Perspective Ministries



*To my fantastic wife and best friend Nanci,  
who continues to bring unending joy and  
laughter to my life.*

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*Original printing by InterVarsity Press, 1989*

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revised and updated

*(Special thanks to Pastor Terry Delaney, who graciously gave of his  
time to offer input and edits on this latest edition.)*

This 2011 printing by

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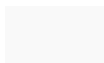
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Something terrible happened.” The tense voice belonged to my friend, who was calling from across the country. “Yesterday our pastor left his wife and ran off with another woman.”

I was sad, but not shocked or even surprised. I’ve heard the same story too many times.

Many years ago I spoke on sexual purity at a Bible college. Several students came for counseling, including three I’ll call Rachel, Barb, and Pam.

Rachel got right to the point: “My parents sent me to one of our pastors for counseling, and I ended up sleeping with him.” Later the same day Barb, a deacon’s daughter, told me through tears, “My dad has had sex with me for years, and now he’s starting on my sisters.” Next day I met Pam. Her story? “I came to Bible college to get away from an affair with my pastor.”

At another school, Toni, an eighteen-year-old girl, was guilt-ridden because she had had sex with her former youth pastor. “Have you confessed it to the Lord and cut off the relationship?” I asked.

“Yes,” she replied. “His wife found out, and he moved to another church. But that’s not all.” She paused. “I can’t believe it, but the church hired a new youth pastor, and I ended up in bed with him too!”

Toni said I could discuss her situation with the dean of students. “What’s going on with Christian leaders?” he asked. “Last year our music minister was dismissed for adultery. Then we found out he’d done the same thing in his last church. And I just heard that a seminary prof was dismissed for immorality.”

For every well-known Christian television personality or evangelical leader who commits sexual immorality, there are any number of lesser-known local pastors, Bible teachers, and parachurch workers who quietly resign or are fired for the same. Most of us can name several, some dozens, and some many more. Three Christian leaders I know of sat down together and between them came up with a list of 250 names.

The service of innumerable laymen and laywomen to the body of Christ has been eroded or abruptly halted for exactly the same reason. Much as we hate to admit it, the evangelical landscape is littered with the carcasses of lives and ministries decimated by sexual sin.

The inescapable conclusion is sobering and the implications far-reaching: there is among Christians, including Christians in ministry, a moral epidemic of enormous and frightening proportions.

The stories I've mentioned involved church leaders and lay people alike. Countless Christian men and women have fallen prey to sexual immorality, including the trap of internet pornography.

While the problem may seem more devastating to the local church when it involves a pastor or other leader, it's also destructive when it happens unnoticed among church members. Sadly, very few pastors deal with this problem head-on and even fewer members seek to be held accountable in this critical area. What follows in this booklet is a battle plan to help us wage war against this powerful and persistent enemy.





eternal perspective ministries

with author Randy Alcorn

## Learn more about *Sexual Temptation: Establishing Guardrails and Winning the Battle*

In a world that makes sex an idol, we are fooling ourselves if we think immorality's lure will have no effect on us. It is possible with God's help to live sexually pure lives. But what we lack, and desperately need, is a deeper understanding of our vulnerability, and clear, preventive guidelines we can follow to avoid immorality.

**Purchase this book**



## About Randy Alcorn

Randy is the founder and director of Eternal Perspective Ministries and the best-selling author of over 50 books (over nine million in print) including *Heaven*, *The Treasure Principle*, and the Gold Medallion winner *Safely Home*.



## About Eternal Perspective Ministries

Eternal Perspective Ministries (EPM) is a nonprofit ministry dedicated to teaching principles of God's Word and assisting the church in ministering to the unreached, unfed, unborn, uneducated, and unsupported people around the world. You can order all of Randy's books and products through EPM's online store at [www.epm.org](http://www.epm.org).