

“When Adam came from the Creator's hand, he bore, in his **physical, mental,** and **spiritual nature**, a likeness to his Maker. **"God created man in His own image"** (**Genesis 1:27**), and it was His purpose that the longer man lived the more fully he should reveal this image--the more fully reflect the glory of the Creator. **All his faculties were capable of development**; their capacity and vigor were continually to increase.” {1903, *Education p. 15.1*}

**Exodus 2:21** “And Moses was **content** to dwell with the man: and he gave Moses Zipporah his daughter.”

**Luke 3:14** “And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man, neither accuse *any* falsely; **and be content with your wages.**”

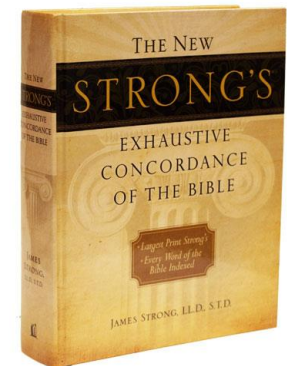
**Hebrews 13:5** “*Let your conversation be without covetousness; **and be content with such things as ye have**: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*”

## Contentment – Greek (841)

αὐτάρκεια – *autarkeia* [ow-tar'-ki-ah]

From G842; **self satisfaction**, that is, (abstractly) **contentedness**, or (concretely) a *competence*: - contentment, **sufficiency**.

**Contentedness** - feeling or showing satisfaction with one's possessions, status, or situation



**“The image of Satan was upon men,** and Christ came that He might **bring to them moral power and efficiency.** He came as a helpless babe, bearing the humanity we bear. **“As the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same.”**

*(MS 21, 1895). S.D.A Bible*

*Commentary Vol. 7 p. 925.1*





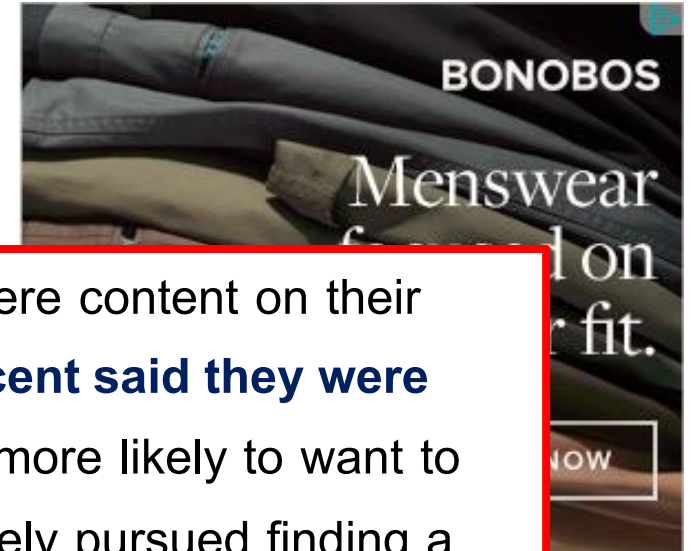
# Being Single Is Harder on Men Than It Is on Women

And researchers think they know why

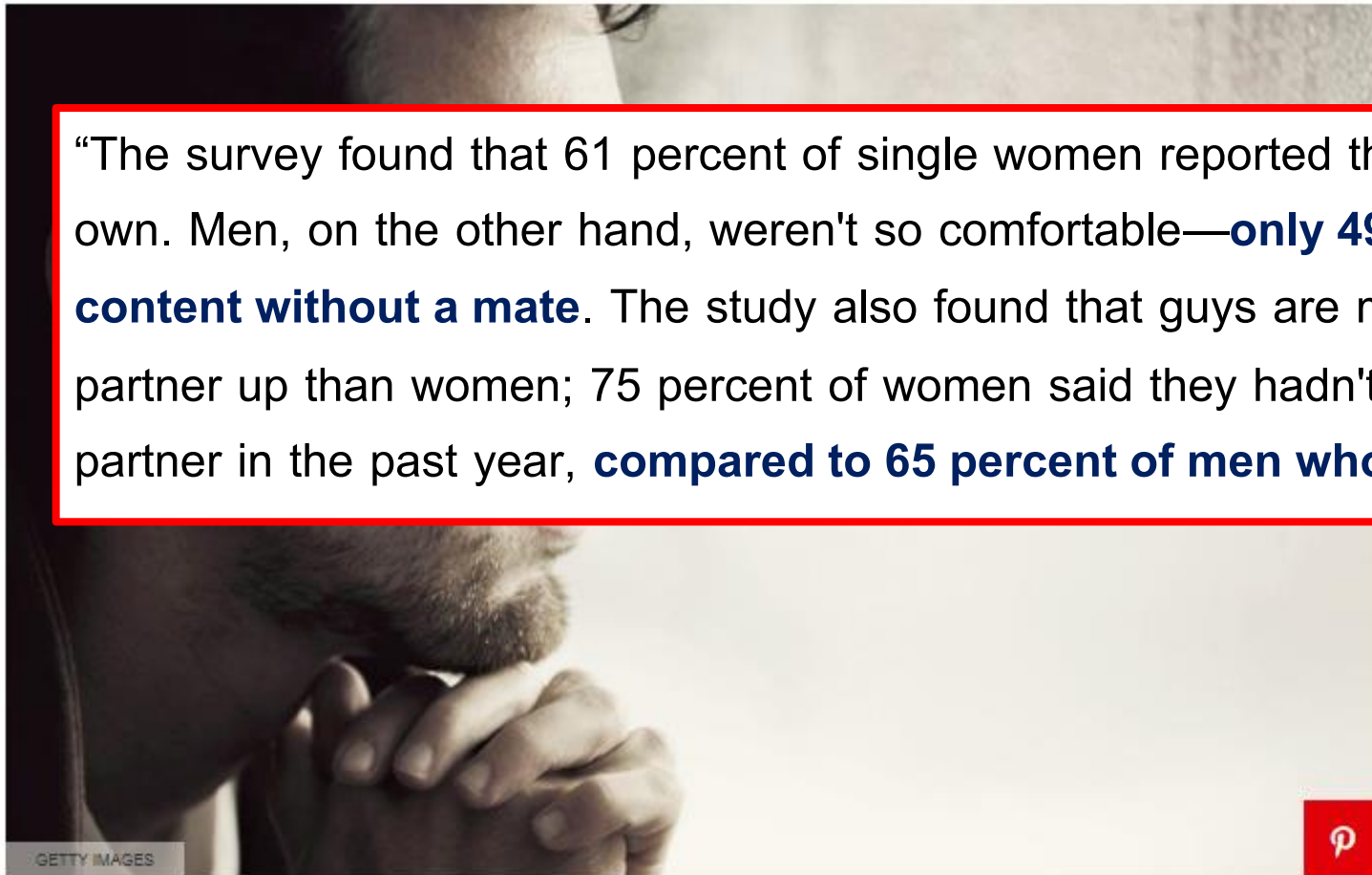


BY JACK CROSBIE NOV 21, 2017

1.2k



“The survey found that 61 percent of single women reported they were content on their own. Men, on the other hand, weren't so comfortable—**only 49 percent said they were content without a mate.** The study also found that guys are much more likely to want to partner up than women; 75 percent of women said they hadn't actively pursued finding a partner in the past year, **compared to 65 percent of men who said the same.**”



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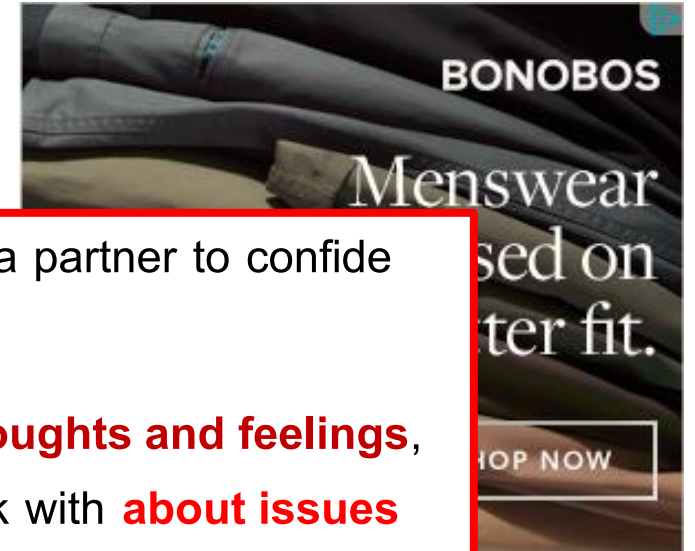
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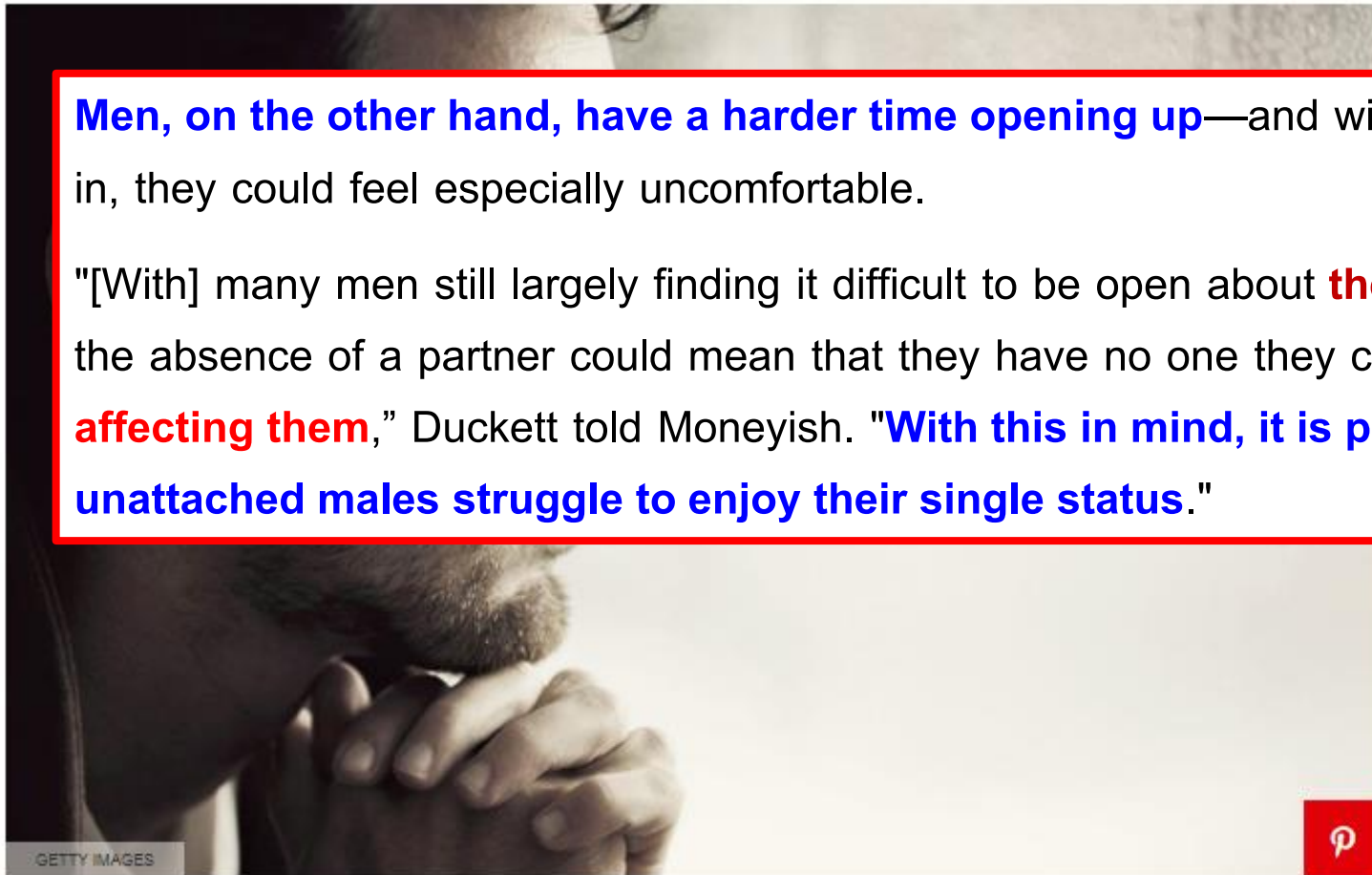
BY JACK CROSBIE NOV 21, 2017

1.2k



Men, on the other hand, have a harder time opening up—and without a partner to confide in, they could feel especially uncomfortable.

"[With] many men still largely finding it difficult to be open about **their thoughts and feelings**, the absence of a partner could mean that they have no one they can talk with **about issues affecting them**," Duckett told Moneyish. **"With this in mind, it is perhaps unsurprising that unattached males struggle to enjoy their single status."**



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## Social Media

POSTED ON P  
SELF IMPROV

### 1. Discontent and Comparison

### 2. Soliciting Attention

### 3. Difficulties in getting around in the offline world

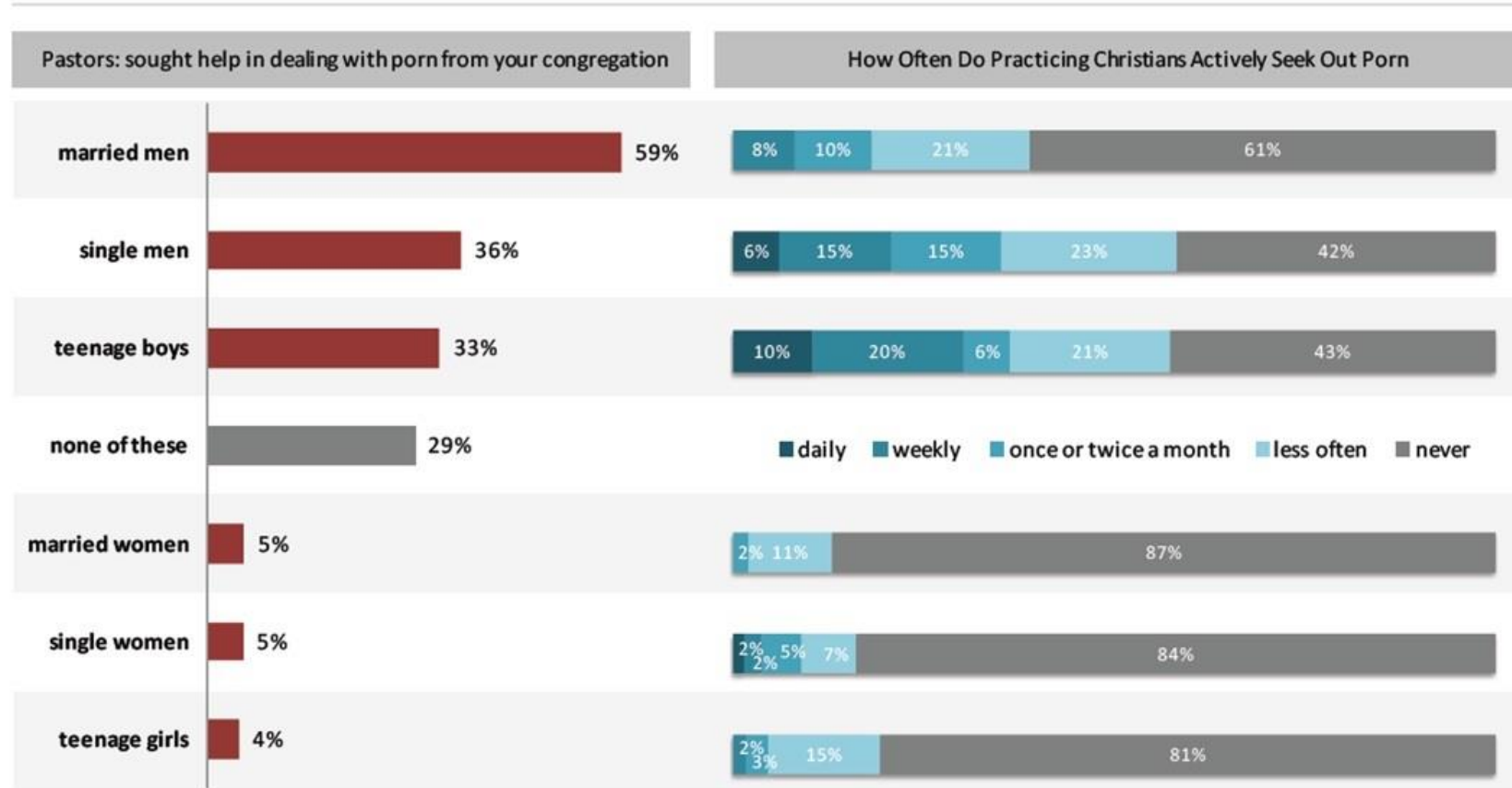
A new study funded by the National Institute of health labeled social media as one of **the major causes of depression**. A 298 person case study at The University of Salford reported that 50% of the participants said that their [“use of social networks like Facebook and Twitter makes their lives worse.”](#)





# Who Is Struggling in the Church?

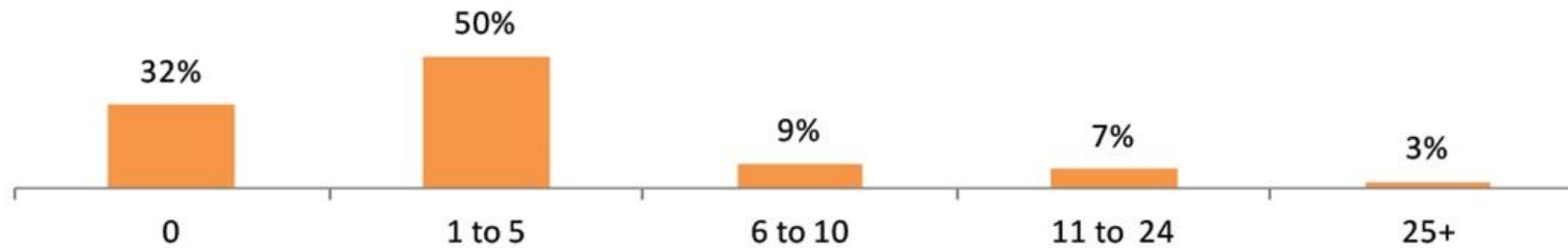
Men of all ages and stages, but especially married men, are coming to pastors for help with pornography struggles.



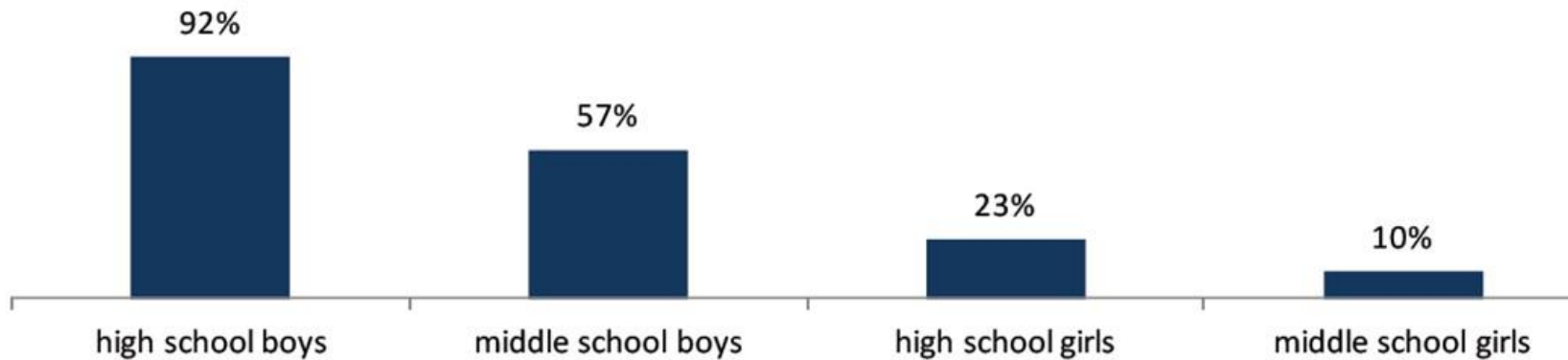
# Teens Struggling in the Church

More than half of youth pastors have had at least one teen come to them for help in dealing with porn in the past 12 months. Although teens seeking help are mainly boys, there is still a significant amount of girls seeking help from youth pastors.

In the past 12 months, how many teens have come to you for help in dealing with porn?



Which types of youth have sought help in dealing with pornography?

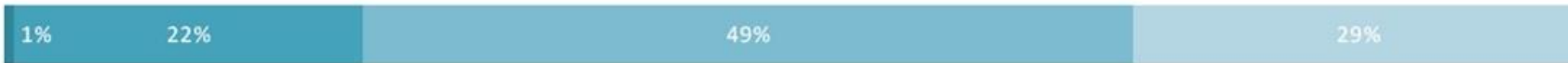


In the past 12 months, how many teens have come to you for help in dealing with porn?  
Which types of youth have sought help in dealing with pornography?

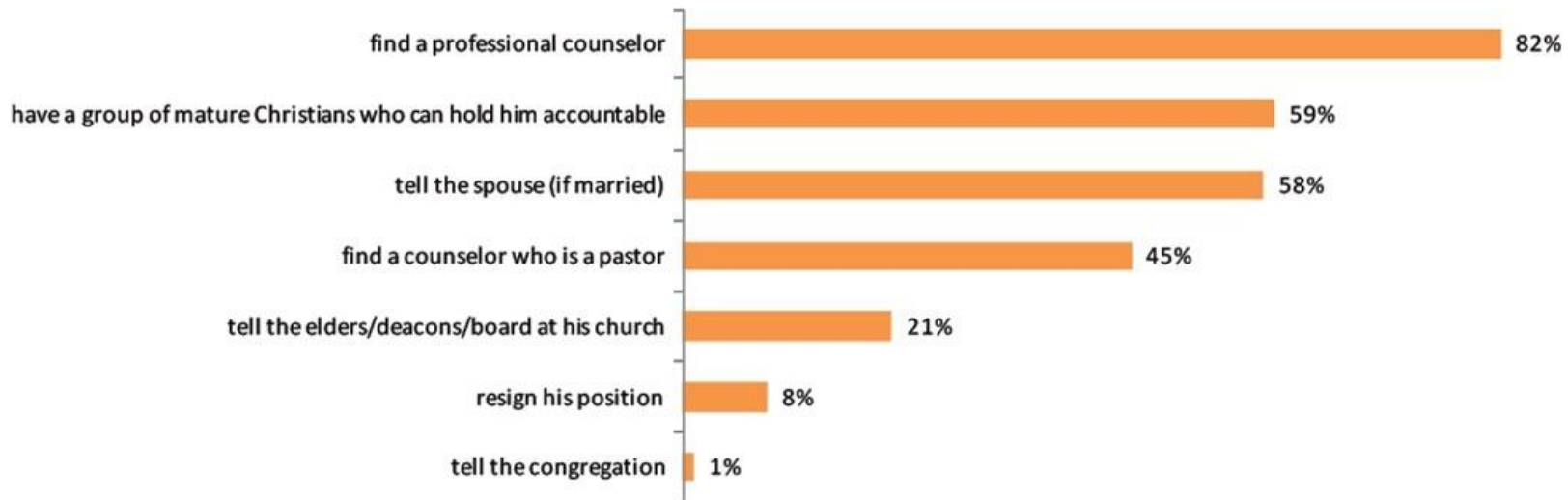
Only 8% of pastors think that a pastor should resign his/her position if s/he is struggling with porn. Most pastors think s/he should deal with the struggle through counseling or accountability.

How much does the issue of porn interfere with your ability to find strong lay leaders in the church?

■ very ■ somewhat ■ not too ■ not at all



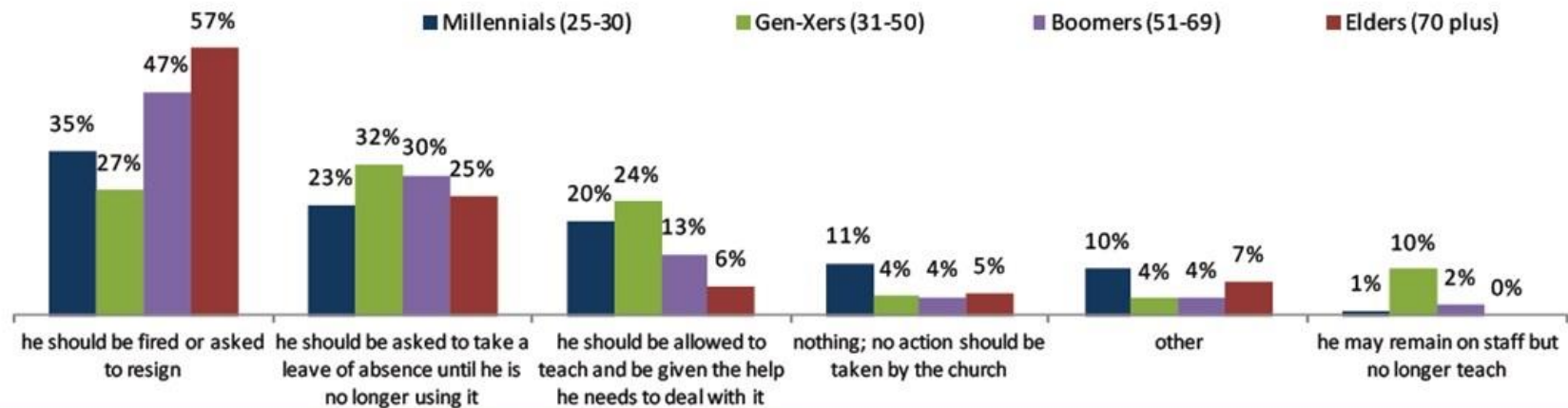
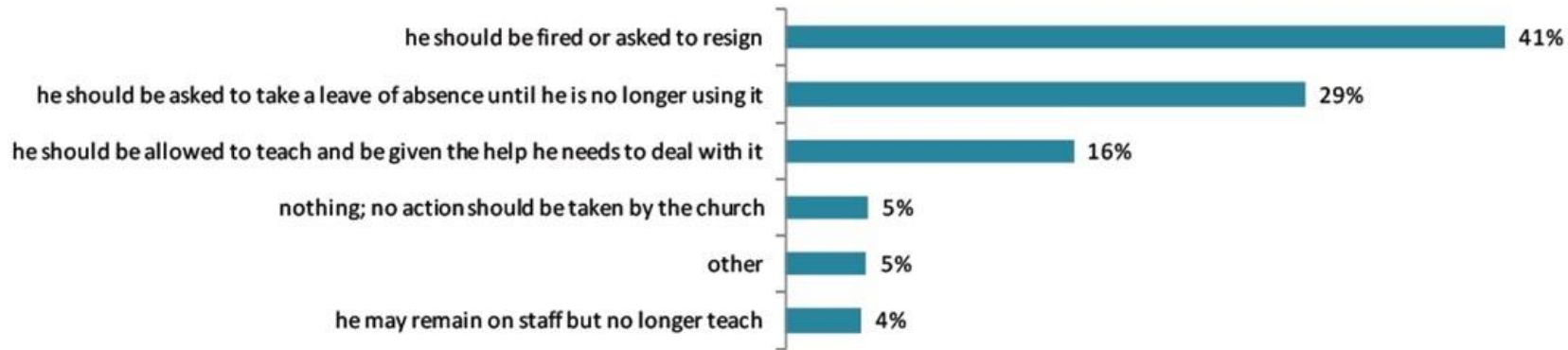
Which of the following do you think are usually a good idea when a pastor is struggling with porn?



How much does the issue of porn interfere with your ability to find strong lay leaders in the church?  
Which of the following do you think are usually a good idea when a pastor is struggling with porn?

# If a Church Finds Out its Pastor is Using Porn...

41% adult Christians think that pastors should be fired or asked to resign if they are found to be using porn. Younger Christians are more likely to take a lenient approach.



What do you think should be done if a church finds out that its pastor is using pornography?

“**Young men have received the truth and run well for a season**, but Satan has woven his meshes about them in **unwise attachments and poor marriages**. This he saw would be the most successful way he could allure them from the path of holiness. For a while some of these youth bore the gospel armor with dignity and grace. **Just as long as the heart and mind were in subjection to the divine will, there was prosperity**; but when **the eye** was **diverted** from Jesus and **attracted** to unworthy objects, then it was that self asserted the sway, **that carnal reason overbore wise judgment and integrity**, and the Christian armor was thought too weighty to be borne by those so young in years. It would do for old, experienced soldiers of the gospel, **but it was too heavy for youth**. The tempter offered many suggestions calculated to cause inconstancy and vacillation in the Christian course.” – *Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 5, p. 114.3*





**Just the Facts**  
Mississippi has the highest number of children living in father absent homes **(36.2%)** followed by Louisiana **(34.4%)**, and Alabama **(30.7%)**.  
SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau (2013)

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**Just the Facts**  
There are **2 million** single-father households versus **10 million** single-mother households in the U.S.  
SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau. (2013).

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**Just the Facts**  
Father absence is to blame for many of our most intractable social ills affecting children.  
The old adage, "correlation does not imply causation," does not apply to the effects of father absence on children.  
SOURCE: McLanahan, S., Tach, L., & Schneider, D. (2013). The causal effects of father absence. Annual Review of Sociology, 39, 399-427.

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## Just the Facts

In America,  
**23.6%**  
of children  
(17.4 million)  
lived in  
father-absent  
homes in 2014.

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau (2015)

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## Just the Facts

**1 in 4**  
children  
live in  
a home  
without  
a dad.

SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau. (2015). C3. Living arrangements of children under 18 years/1 and marital status of parents, by age, sex, race, and hispanic origin/2 and selected characteristics of the child for all children: 2014. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Census Bureau.

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## Just the Facts

Children living in  
female-headed  
homes with no  
spouse present have  
a poverty rate of  
**47.6%**  
- over four times  
the rate for children  
living in married  
couple families.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (2012)

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## Just the Facts

Adolescent boys with absent fathers are more likely to engage in delinquency than those with fathers who are present.

SOURCE: from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health. Cobb-Clark, D. A., & Tekin, E. (2014).

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## Just the Facts

Children raised in a father-absent home are more likely to experience behavioral problems.

SOURCE: Osborne, C., & McLanahan, S. (2007). Partnership instability and child well-being. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 69, 1065-1083..

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## Just the Facts

92%  
of parents  
in prison  
are fathers.

SOURCE: Glaze, L.E., & Maruschak, L.M. (2010).

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## Just the Facts

Compared to pregnant women without father support, pregnant women with father support experience a lower prevalence of pregnancy loss

**22.2%**

compared to

**48.1%**

SOURCE: Shah, M., Gee, R., & Theall, K. (2014). Partner support and impact on birth outcomes among teen pregnancies in the United States. *Journal of Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology*, 27, 14-19.

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## Just the Facts

Dad's Involvement during pregnancy positively influences health outcomes for mom, dad, and baby.



SOURCE: Widarsson, M., Engstrom, G., Tyden, T., Lundberg, P., & Hammar, L. (2015). 'Paddling upstream': Fathers' involvement during pregnancy as described by expectant fathers and mothers. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 27, 1059-1068.

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## Just the Facts

Daughters are less likely to engage in risky sexual behavior when they have consistent contact, and a sense of closeness, with their dads.



SOURCE: Green, B., Davis, C., Clark, T., Quinn, C., & Cryer-Coupet, Q. (2014). Father involvement, dating violence, and sexual risk behaviors among a national sample of adolescent females. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, <http://jiv.sagepub.com/>.

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## Just the Facts

Father involvement in schools is associated with the higher likelihood of a student getting mostly A's.

SOURCE: Nord, Christine Winquist, and Jerry West. *Fathers' and Mothers' Involvement in Their Children's Schools by Family Type and Resident Status*. (NCES 2001-032). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2001.

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## Just the Facts

The absence of a biological father contributes to increased risk of child maltreatment.

SOURCE: "CPS Involvement in Families with Social Fathers." *Fragile Families Research Brief No.46*. Princeton, NJ and New York, NY: Bendheim-Thomas Center for Research on Child Wellbeing and Social Indicators Survey Center, 2010.

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## Just the Facts

Involved dads lead to less distress in toddlers.

SOURCE: Bocknek, E. L., Brophy-Herb, H. E., Fitzgerald, H. E., Schiffman, R. F., & Vogel, C. (2014). Stability of biological father presence as a proxy for family stability: cross-racial associations with the longitudinal development of emotion regulation in toddlerhood. *Infant Mental Health Journal*, 35(4), 309-321.

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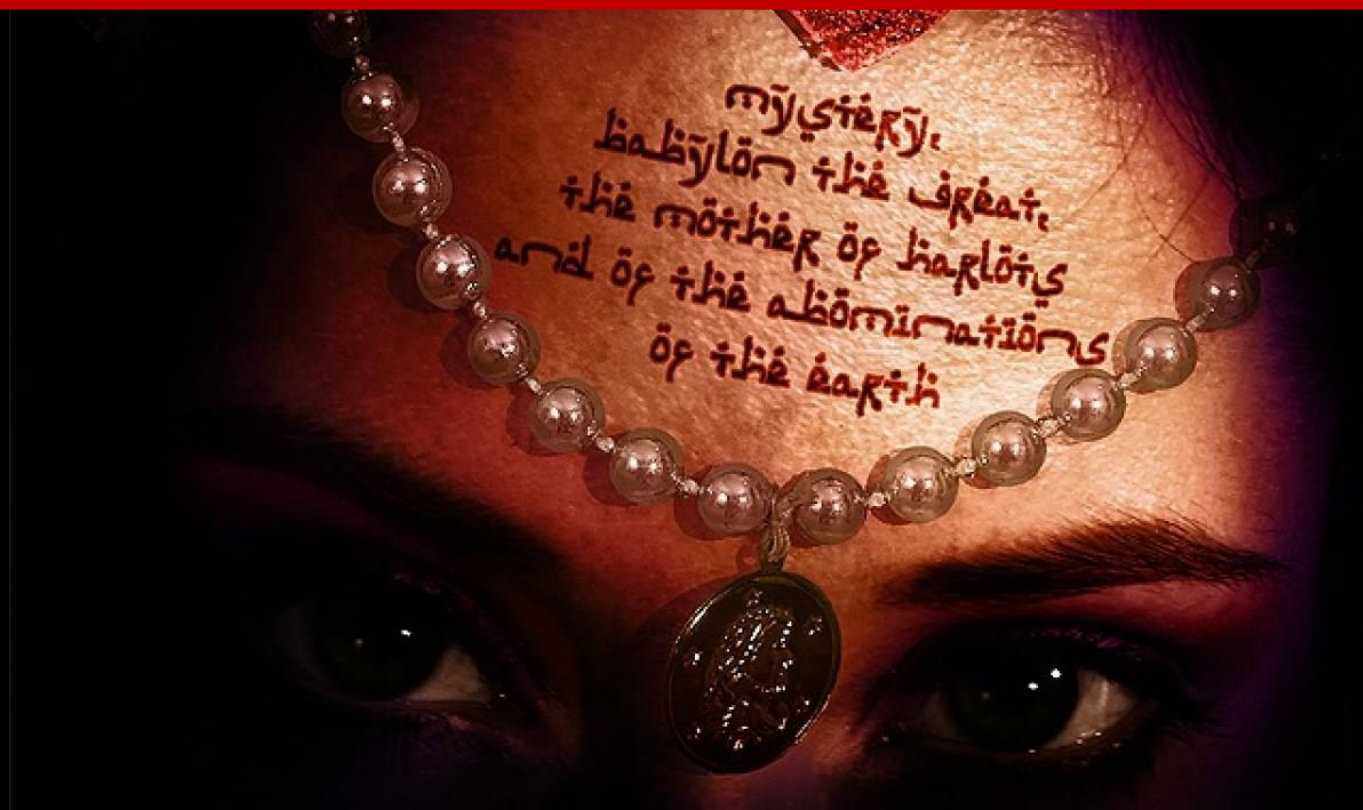
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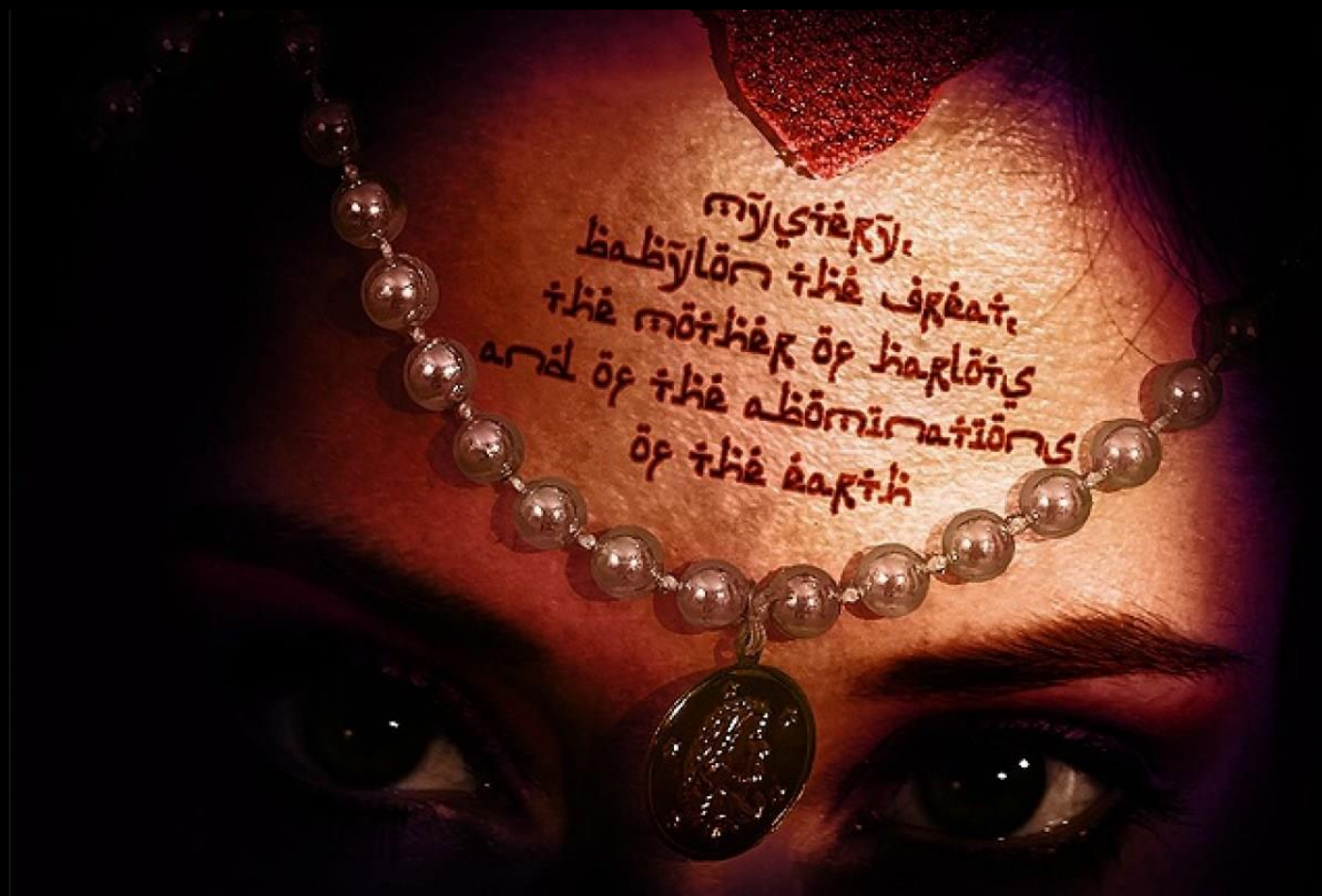
Proverbs 2:16-18 “To deliver thee from the **strange woman**, even from the **stranger which flattereth with her words**; (17) Which forsaketh the guide of her youth, and forgetteth the covenant of her God. (18) For her house inclineth unto death, and her paths unto the dead.”

Proverbs 5:3-5 “For the lips of a **strange woman** drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil: (4) But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a twoedged sword. (5) Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell.”



Proverbs 7:5 “That they may keep thee from the **strange woman**, from the stranger *which* flattereth with her words.”

Proverbs 22:14 “The mouth of **strange women** is a deep pit: he that is abhorred of the LORD shall fall therein.”



**Matthew 5:27-30** “Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: **(28)** But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart. **(29)** **And if thy right eye offend thee**, pluck it out, and cast *it* from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not *that* thy whole body should be cast into hell. **(30)** **And if thy right hand offend thee**, cut it off, and cast *it* from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not *that* thy whole body should be cast into hell.”

**Job 31:1** “I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?”

**Job 31:1** “I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a young woman.” NIV

**Proverbs 6:24-26** “To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman. **(25)** Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids. **(26)** For by means of a whorish woman *a man is brought to a piece of bread*: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life.”





1 Thessalonians 5:22 “Abstain from all appearance of evil.”

Exodus 23:7 “Keep thee far from a false matter; and the innocent and righteous slay thou not: for I will not justify the wicked.”

Proverbs 4:14-15 “Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil *men*. (15) Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away.”

Proverbs 4:25 “Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee.”



Romans 14:16 “Let not then your good be **evil spoken of**”

2 Corinthians 6:3 “Giving **no offence** in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed:”

Ephesians 5:3 “But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, **let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints;**”



“It is far easier to **build strong boys** than it is to **repair broken men.**” – *Frederick Douglas*

“**Fatherless boys** spend up to **80% of their time with women.** They don’t know how to act when they grow up. This directly affects the relationships between the sexes. Men become more helpless, like big kids.” – *Sociologist Peter Karl*

“**Fatherlessness** is the greatest social problem facing society today. When you cut off the head, the body falls.” – *Filmmaker Andrea Wiley*



“Every time you raise a **loving, wise, and responsible man, you have created a better world for women**. Women today are having to bond with **half-men, boys not fully raised into manhood**, they don’t know what their responsibilities are, and don’t have a strong sense of service. **Today’s father’s have an opportunity to change that.**” – *Dr. Michael Gurian*



“The garden of the heart must be cultivated. **The soil** must be **broken up by deep repentance** **for sin. Poisonous, Satanic plants must be uprooted.**” *Christ Object Lessons, p. 56.2*



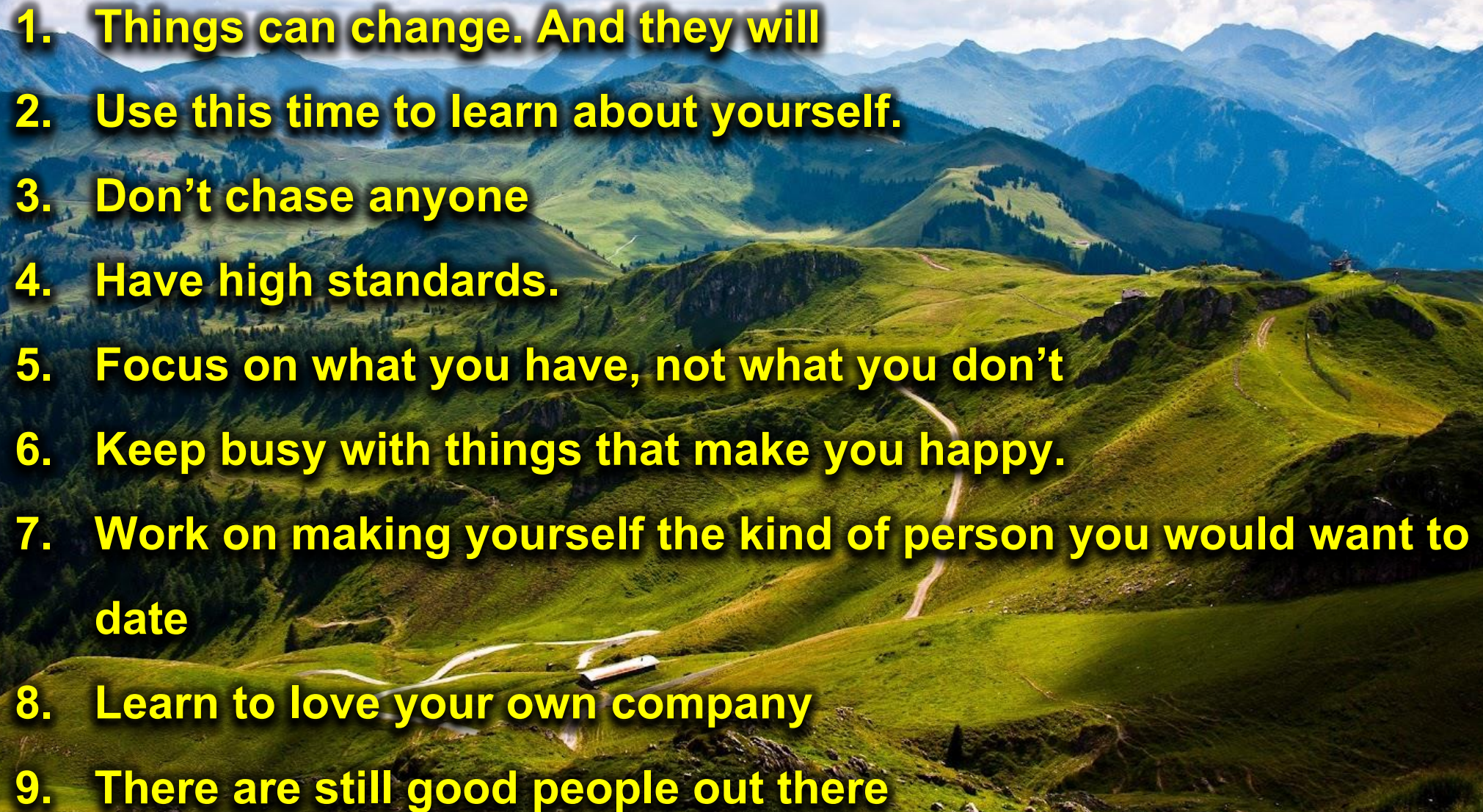


[“To know oneself is a great knowledge... Self-](#)  
knowledge leads to humility and to trust in God, but  
it does not take the place of efforts for **self-**  
**improvement**. Those who realize their own  
**deficiencies** will spare no pains to reach the highest  
possible standard of physical, mental, and moral  
excellence.” —*Special Testimonies on Education*,  
*pp. 49, 50. {BLJ 105.5}*



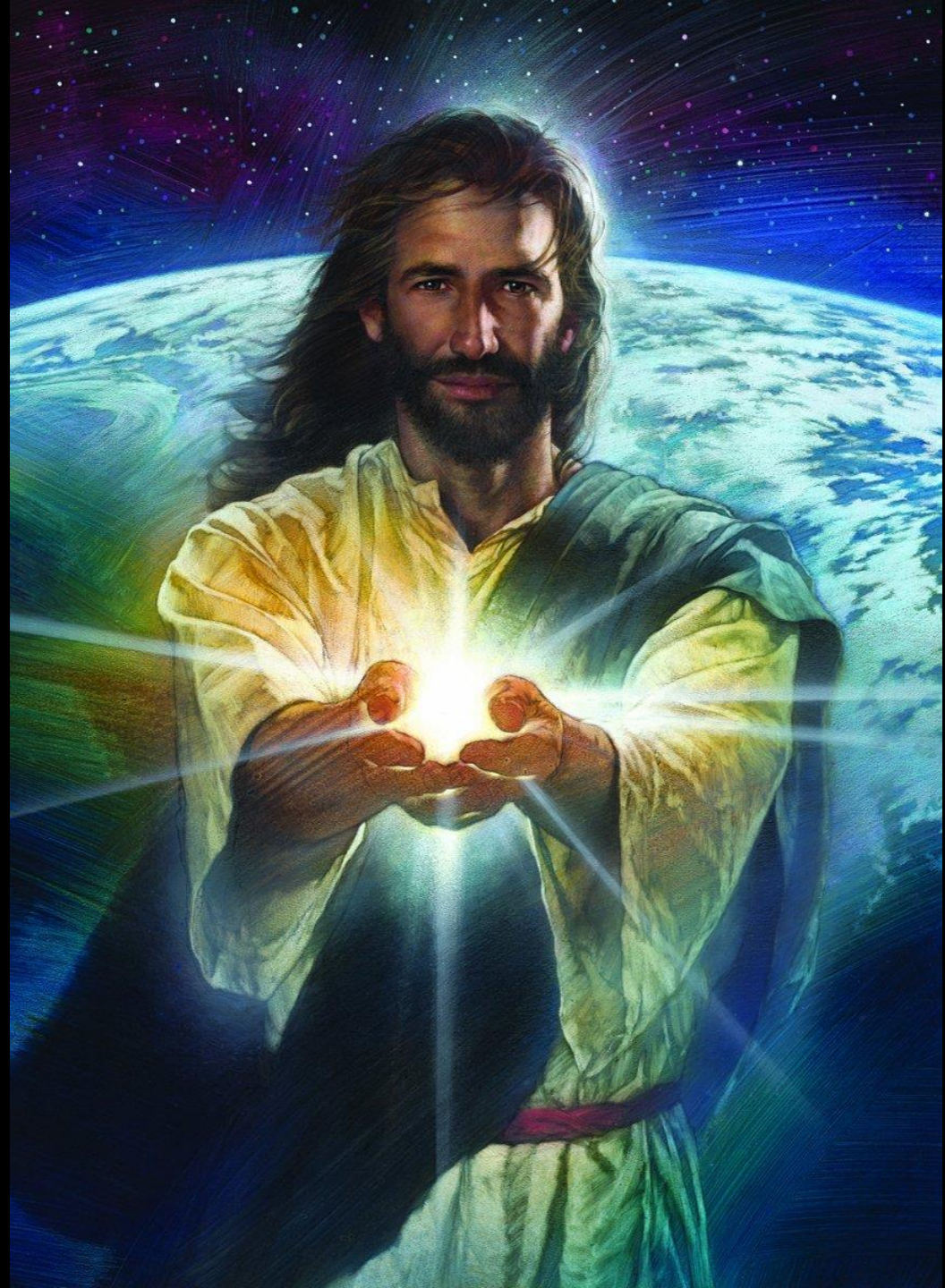
“Christ’s overcoming and obedience is that of a true human being. In our conclusions, we make many mistakes because of our erroneous views of the human nature of our Lord. **When we give to His human nature a power that it is not possible for man to have in his conflicts with Satan, we destroy the completeness of His humanity.**” (MS 1, 1892) S.D.A. Bible Commentary, vol. 7, page 929.5



- 
- 1. Things can change. And they will**
  - 2. Use this time to learn about yourself.**
  - 3. Don't chase anyone**
  - 4. Have high standards.**
  - 5. Focus on what you have, not what you don't**
  - 6. Keep busy with things that make you happy.**
  - 7. Work on making yourself the kind of person you would want to date**
  - 8. Learn to love your own company**
  - 9. There are still good people out there**

“No person was ever honored for what he received. **Honor has been the reward for what he gave.**” 30<sup>th</sup>

*President Calvin Coolidge*

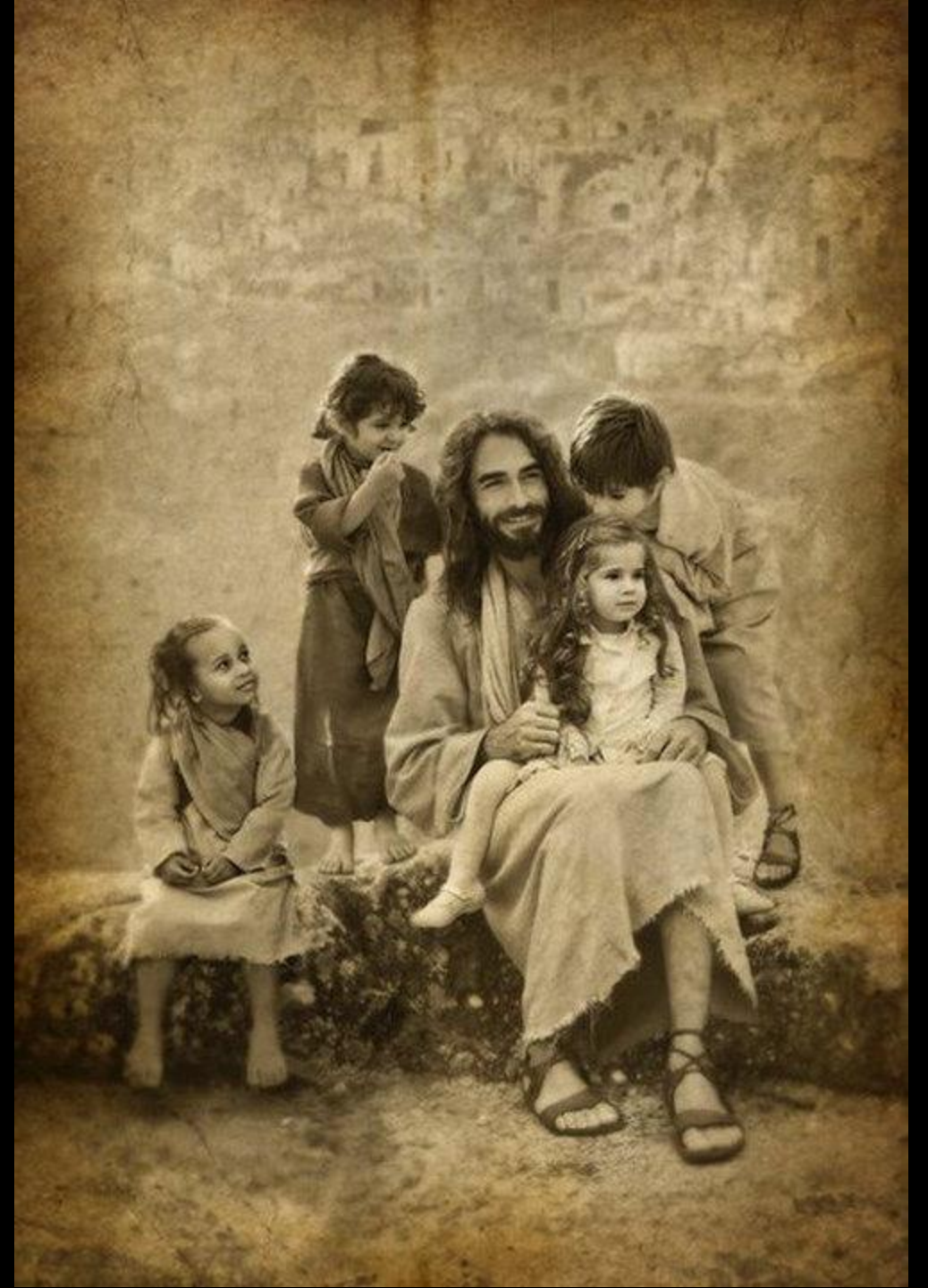






“The man with a healthy **self-image** and strong sense of **his worth** and **masculinity** is far happier and more competent in coping with life than the male plagued by **doubts** and feelings of **inadequacy**.” – *Peter and Evelyn Blitchington, Understanding the Male Ego (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1984), .242*

“Christ never **murmured**, never uttered **discontent**, **displeasure**, or **resentment**. He was never **disheartened**, **discouraged**, **ruffled**, or **fretted**. He was **patient**, **calm**, and **self-possessed** under the **most exciting** and **trying circumstances**. All His works were performed with a **quiet dignity** and **ease**, whatever **commotion** was around Him. **Applause did not elate Him**. He feared not **the threats** of His enemies. He moved amid **the world of excitement**, of **violence** and **crime**, as the sun moves above the clouds. Human **passions** and **commotions** and **trials** were beneath Him. He sailed like the sun above them all.”



**“Yet He was not indifferent to the woes of men.** His heart was ever touched with the sufferings and necessities of His brethren, as though He Himself was the one afflicted. He had a **calm inward joy, a peace** which was **serene**. His will was ever swallowed up in the will of His Father. *Not My will but Thine be done, was heard from His pale and quivering lips.*” {3MR 427.3}

We long and pray that the grace of God may come into your hearts. **We want you to make an entire surrender to God.** . . . May God help you all to walk humbly and carefully is our prayer.” --*Letter 51a, 1874, pp. 2, 3, 4. (To "Dear Children, Edson and Emma White," September 11, 1874.)* {Manuscript Release, Vol. 3, p. 428.1}

