

## DEALING WITH DANCING

### I. Not all dancing is sinful.

- a. There are examples in the Bible where God's people danced in a way that would not be considered sinful.
  - i. Miriam and the women of Israel danced when the Egyptian army was destroyed by God (Exodus 15:20).
  - ii. David danced before the ark of the covenant (2 Samuel 6:16).
  - iii. There was a dance that the daughters of the Israelites did together in Judges 21.
  - iv. God inspired Solomon that there was a time to mourn and a time to dance (Ecclesiastes 3:4).
- b. There is one reference to dancing in the New Testament when it is not involving something sinful and that is found in Matthew 11:17 and Luke 7:32, both of which are a reference to attitude of the Pharisees.
- c. Most of the references to dancing in the Old Testament are either dancing before God or dancing for joy because of deliverance from something by God.
  - i. Psalm 149:3.
  - ii. Psalm 30:11.
- d. So, there may be a time that you would dance for joy because God has done something great in your life.
- e. We don't tend to do that, and, to be honest, I've never known anyone to do that, but there would be nothing wrong with it.

### II. Reasons my family won't be dancing.

- a. The way dancing is done today.
  - i. When you turn on the TV and see dancing, or watch a movie with dancing, what do you see?
  - ii. One person said that dancing is a vertical expression of a horizontal thought.
  - iii. Hopefully you are able to figure out what that means.
  - iv. The dancing done today, and for a long time, is very sexual in nature.
  - v. The movements can be very sexual and the closeness is very sexual.
  - vi. Arthur Murray was once a very famous dance instructor.
    1. He once laughingly said that the difference in wrestling and dancing is that in wrestling some holds are barred.
    2. His wife, not laughingly, said that the female partner had to surrender her body to the male lead.
  - vii. Last week, I turned 45.
    1. As old as that may seem to some, I can still remember being young.
    2. And, as one preacher told me, I ain't dead yet.

- viii. Sadly, it seems that many Christian parents have forgotten the thoughts they had, or possibly the actions they undertook, when they were young.
  - ix. Often, we hear adults say something like I want things better for my child than I had it.
  - x. Sometimes this is said to justify sinful things and sometimes it is truthful.
  - xi. However, we need to ask ourselves something:
    1. Did you really turn out so bad?
    2. Or, Is this really better for my child?
  - xii. In Galatians 5:19-21, we have listed a group of items described as the works of the flesh, which are set in contrast with the fruit of the Spirit.
    1. One of the works is called lasciviousness.
    2. This word carries the idea of the unchaste handling of males and females.
    3. Unchaste means not virtuous, not pure, characterized by sexual suggestiveness, transgression, or excess.
    4. Another word in that list is called revellings.
    5. This has to do with events in which the lascivious acts take place.
    6. Then, by inspiration, Paul said, and such like.
  - xiii. My family is not going to dance because the dancing done today falls into the categories of those mentioned in Galatians 5:19-21.
- b.** It incites the temptation to lust.
- i. When a young man is pressing his body against that of a young lady, he more than likely is going to lust at some point.
  - ii. Christian Dior, the famed designer, at one point had corsets put into each of the evening gowns he designed.
  - iii. The year that he quit doing that he was asked why.
  - iv. His answer was that he heard many men complain that they could not feel the body of the ones with whom they were dancing because of the corsets.
  - v. Have you ever wondered why you don't see heterosexual males dancing together?
  - vi. Probably not because we all know why.
  - vii. Matthew 5:28.
  - viii. Romans 13:13-14 – if I avoid the situations where lust is likely, it is much more difficult to make provision for the flesh.
  - ix. 2 Timothy 2:22.
  - x. It's at this point that a lot of moms roll their eyes.
  - xi. When you go home tonight, ask your husband what he thinks about when he is holding you close or dancing with you.
  - xii. Now, put that in the context of a young man's desire.
  - xiii. Remember that lust brings sin and sin brings death (James 1:14-15).



### III. The reality.

- a. Why do Christian parents allow their children to participate in such events?
- b. It's not because we want our children to be lost.
- c. It's not because we believe that absolutely nothing bad could happen to them.
- d. It is because we hate to deprive our children of some experience they feel they need to have so they aren't different from others.
  - i. If we've been a Christian for any length of time, we know the pain of being different from those around us.
  - ii. And believe me, I know it is a pain.
- e. As humans, we want to be looked at like everyone else and we don't like to stand out in the crowd.
  - i. Even those who say that I just want to be my own individual feel this way.
  - ii. Those groups of people who want to be different all gravitate to one another.
  - iii. It is rare for one to truly want to be a loner.
- f. Parents want to protect their children from pain and ostracism or rejection or ridicule are all painful.
- g. Dancing is fun but a lot of sin is fun.
- h. You may be able to handle being pressed up against someone of the opposite sex and not think lustful thoughts but what about the person with whom you are dancing or the one you influence to go to the dance (Romans 14:15).
- i. You might try and say that boys will think those thoughts anyway, and you're probably right but just because gas will ignite, does that mean you need to throw a match on it?
- j. We have to realize that our children don't need to fit in and we need to teach them that truth.
- k. There will be ridicule (1 Peter 4:16).
- l. Parents, we have to love our children enough to say no to them when they want to do things that will harm them.
- m. Dads have to stand up and take control and be the head of the house that God commands us to be.