

THERE IS A PRISON SO DANGEROUS, SO IMPENETRABLE THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO WAY OUT.

UNTIL NOW...

OPERATION ISAIAH

SETTING THE CAPTIVES FREE

MINISTER GUIDE

GET READY
FOR THE BREAK OUT

DEFENDER MINISTRIES presents
OPERATION ISAIAH: MINISTER GUIDE

including lessons from
FAMILY DEFENSE SERIES:
(FACILITATOR & PARTICIPANT GUIDES)
TECHNOLOGICAL PITFALLS
THE GLORY OF SEX

and
STUDENT DEFENSE SERIES:
(FACILITATOR & PARTICIPANT GUIDES)
MEDIA INFLUENCES & SEX
SEXUAL PURITY
LUST
MODESTY
PORN UNPLUGGED
COMMUNICATION
INTIMACY WITH GOD

published by Defender Press

© 2007 by Defender Ministries
Written by David M. Staples

Cover design by David M. Staples

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from:
The Holy Bible, English Standard Version

© 2007 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers
Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Printed in the United States of America

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval
system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means - electronic,
mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise - with prior
written permission.

For information:
DEFENDER PRESS
POST OFFICE BOX 621944
OVIEDO, FL 32762-1944

THE TARGET

There is a prison so dangerous and destructive that those who find themselves trapped inside lose hope of ever breaking free. It not only imprisons their bodies, but also their souls. Over time, it has grown stronger and larger, through silence and lies and misinformation. Its inmates include men and women, the old and the young, the rich and the poor teachers, pastors, parents, government officials, law enforcement officers.

Its four walls are made up of pornography, sex, lust, and lies. It cannot be breached by any standard weapon. The ruler of this prison has answers for every attack - except one...

THE OPERATION

OPERATION ISAIAH is a youth weekend that will teach students and parents alike how to break free from the prison of pornography, sexual sin, lust, and impurity. Through sessions forged from strong biblical principles, participants will see that the power they need is already there - in the Word of God. The lessons do not pull punches, but are not gratuitously shocking or offensive. The Bible does not dodge issues like these - and neither will OPERATION ISAIAH. Truth will set you free.

THE MISSION GUIDELINE

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound.” Isaiah 61:1

THE TIMELINE

LESSONS FOR PARENTS	2
TECHNOLOGICAL PITFALLS	3
GLORY OF SEX	35
LESSONS FOR STUDENTS	55
MEDIA INFLUENCES & SEX	56
SEXUAL PURITY	89
LUST (GUYS)	107
MODESTY (GIRLS)	122
PORN UNPLUGGED	139
COMMUNICATION	156
INTIMACY WITH GOD	190
ALL 50 DEVOTIONALS	209

STUDENT LESSONS



MEDIA INFLUENCES AND SEX



EVERYONE HAS SEX

THE SITUATION

Try to find entertainment that does NOT teach this. According to media (music, television, movies, internet), every single person has sex. The only people who do not have sex are portrayed as fruit loop religious fanatics or mouth-breathing, socially-retarded, basement-dwelling nerdy momma's boys – or obese people. In fact, the only group that consistently does NOT have sex are married couples. Take a look at these examples (obviously, this is far from exhaustive) of television shows in 2006/2007 that demonstrate the frequency of premarital or extra-marital sex: *Grey's Anatomy*, *Scrubs*, *30 Rock*, *My Name is Earl*, *ER*, *The Office*, *Lost*, *Gilmore Girls*, *One Tree Hill*, *Smallville*, *Jericho*, *Heroes*, *24*, *Entourage*, *The Sopranos*, *Rome*, *Nip/Tuck*, *Ugly Betty*, *Veronica Mars*, *House* . . . well pretty much every show.

Online, this is further compounded by the relentless coverage of celebrities and the apparently sexually ravenous activities. Lindsay Lohan, Britney Spears, Paris Hilton, Scarlett Johansson, Jessica Simpson, Jessica Biel, Jessica Alba, Ashley Simpson, Nicole Richie, Jake Gyllenhaal, Matthew McConaughey, Jesse Metcalfe, Nick Lachey, and Justin Timberlake are just few of the celebrities who are photographed constantly as they have various body parts pop out of their clothes, or as they stay over at someone's house, or as they make out in clubs. So as young people watch this (especially girls) they think this is how someone in that age group should act. They don't see marriages glorified. Instead, they see the ugly side of marriage as actors, singers, and random celebs get divorced for no reason – and then jump right back into a relationship just days or weeks later.

THE RESULT

Those who praise the APA study talk about how girls feel a type of peer pressure to measure up to these crazy celebrities and their antics. It was one thing when scripted movies or song lyrics encouraged behavior. It is something else entirely when an actual person that a

If you believe this argument to be true, then it changes how you view homosexuality. It is no longer a sin. It is not something that you can fight against. You cannot help someone recover from that. By taking a stand against homosexuality, you are actually demonstrating that you are a bigot by hating a people group. Thanks to their unbelievably vocal and powerful lobbies, the homosexual community has been able to receive treatment from the media and even federal government that usually is reserved for ethnic minorities.

If you watch television and movies, or spend time on the internet entertainment sites, it would seem that homosexuality is rampant across the country. There are gay people on most scripted shows now. Movies more often than not have gay characters in them. One area where this frequency is seen the most is in the entertainment media itself. The numbers are wildly skewed towards homosexual reporters, bloggers, and anchors. Michael Ausiello of *TV Guide*, Perez Hilton, Trent Vanegas (of *Pink is the New Blog*), Michael Slezak and Mark Harris of *EW.com* are just a few extremely vocal gays in this field. They are very vocal about their lifestyle, their relationships, and their attempts to “out” other gay celebrities. When you combine them with other celebrities like Rosie O’Donnell and Ellen DeGeneres, the always present celebrity hairstylists like Ken Paves, and the 2006-2007 rash of “outings” (Neil Patrick Harris, Lance Bass, Michelle Rodriguez, Kristanna Loken, T.R. Knight), there is a very loud voice in the entertainment world.

There also has been a huge increase in the number of shows that feature homosexual characters or story lines. From the days when Ellen’s “coming out” was a big deal and *Will and Grace* was the first show with a gay lead character, things have changed to where it is very common to find homosexual characters (almost always sympathetic characters) in shows – even unexpected ones. *The Sopranos* and *Rescue Me* – both very testosterone driven shows – had major characters revealed to be gay. Other shows with a major gay presence in 2006/2007 include *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy*, *Big Brother* (at least one per season), *Ugly Betty*, *30 Rock*, *Entourage*, *The L Word*, *Queer as Folk*, *American Idol* (at least one per season, lots of

NOTES:

joking about it), and *Scrubs*. Next season, things will not change much. *Cashmere Mafia*, a new series by the *Sex in the City* crew, will feature four female main characters. One of them will get into a homosexual relationship. CBS is considering a show called *The Rich Inner Life of Penelope Cloud*, featuring Marisa Tomei and Cynthia Watros as her lesbian roomie (whom she had a fling with at one point). In addition, the movie that got the most attention come time for the Oscars in 2005 was *Brokeback Mountain* - a film about two gay cowboys.

THE RESULT

As a result of this saturation, most people have just come to accept homosexuality as not that big of a deal. "They aren't bothering me, what do I care?" This is true of many Christians as well. They have seen gays portrayed in a funny way or sympathetic way, and they now do not see why the Church makes such a big deal about it. With each added show and character, this only grows more common. This has become the general belief, even though SECULAR professionals in the counseling field usually point to mitigating factors like childhood abuse, sexual abuse, domineering mothers, absentee fathers as reasons why someone would end up gay.

Recently, the hatred of homosexuals (perceived or real) has moved up the list to the most offensive thing a person can do. Look at the uproar when Isaiah Washington, Mel Gibson, and Donald Trump made comments against gay individuals (not even gays in general). Each of them was castigated in the media. There were even calls for each of them to be completely shut out of their careers due to their hateful beliefs. The issue of gay marriage also comes flying to the forefront now. Celebrities far and wide have lent their voice in support of this cause: Rosie O'Donnell, Angelina Jolie, Brad Pitt, George Clooney, Ellen DeGeneres. To stand against this issue is to be slammed as a bigot.

THE BIBLE SAYS

God's Word is very clear about homosexuality. It is called an abomination in Leviticus. This is repeated

throughout the Bible – Romans 1, 1 & 2 Corinthians, 1 Timothy. It was the defining sin of Sodom and Gomorrah that led to their destruction. Romans 1 shows clearly that it is a result of mankind turning away from God and rejecting Him and His plan. It is not natural or genetic - it is corrupt and against the plan of Creation. However, we are not to hate those who CHOOSE to participate in it – but we are to show them the truth of God’s Word and help them to leave that sin behind – the same as what we should do for anyone wrestling with sin of any sort. This is not a popular opinion – and one that the Federal Government itself is attacking through potential legislation that would give homosexuals protection against “hate speech.” This would include comments like “homosexuality is wrong.”

EXPERIMENTATION IS NORMAL

THE SITUATION

Guys like to watch lesbians – well as long as beautiful models or actresses play them. This is something that has become a driving element in today’s media. The position itself is a result of the proliferation of porn usage, where lesbian activity plays a huge part. Guys are visual and the idea of watching a naked woman is only bettered by the idea of watching two naked women. As this sexual fantasy has become more and more common after repeated viewings, mainstream media has caught on and started to incorporate it – largely through the guise of sexual experimentation being a normal rite of passage. As a result, characters all over media have begun to either announce past dalliances or get involved in these risqué relationships. Miller Lite brought this to the collective forefront through their “Catfight” ad a few years back. Two spokesmodels begin arguing about why people like Miller Lite. They end up wrestling in mud and ripping each other’s clothes off. Not to be outdone, TBS followed suit in their ads for their reality show *The Real Gilligan’s Island*. Actress playing the characters of Ginger and Mary Ann ended up wrestling and soaking each other – much to the delight of guys everywhere.

This has also spilled into the concept of threesomes, where one guy and two women have sex. It an also

NOTES:

have variations on that concept, depending on the show or movie. Recently, shows like *The O.C.*, *Friends*, *Dirt*, *How I Met Your Mother*, *The 70's Show*, *The Girls Next Door*, *Entourage*, *Scrubs*, *Sex in the City*, *Nip/Tuck* and *The Tudors* have explored either same-sex experimentation or sex with multiple partners. (Even though these shows may not have been within the last year, they are often in syndication and can be seen during prime time – or earlier.) The largest emphasis is on two women having sex or making out. There has been, however, a slower and smaller movement to also imply that it is normal and healthy for two guys to do the same. The biggest problem with this catching on is that most guys do not want to dwell on or watch this concept. However, that may be soon changing. It is becoming more acceptable to announce a proclivity to male homosexuality. Pete Wentz, member of hugely successful rock group Fall Out Boy, has admitted that he has gay tendencies that he has acted on – all while dating Ashlee Simpson. This is not going to be a dying issue either. In the 2007/2008 television season CBS will introduce *Swingtown* – a new show about couples in the 70s participating in free love. Both *Cashmere Mafia* and *Lipstick Jungle* have hinted at gay experimentation story lines. And F/X's show *Nip/Tuck* has touched on a story line where its two male leads continue to have homoerotic thoughts and actions towards each other.

THE RESULT

As a result of all of this, it is becoming increasingly acceptable and expected for young ladies to participate in sex activity with each other. Even Christian girls have done this, justifying it by saying it is not really sex since it does not involved male/female intercourse. Youth pastors have reported girls fondling each other at camp, boys naked spooning on mission trips, and groups of young ladies trying out their kissing and sexual moves on each other during youth weekends. It is becoming increasingly frustrating for these ministers. It used to be that one would separate groups by gender for events and be relatively safe from sexual scandal. However, this drive towards same-sex experimentation has begun to make that a dangerous belief.

In addition to the same-sex experimentation, there is still experimenting with sexual activity between guys and girls. One such problem is with Middle School students in many areas of the country. Their schools often start up to an hour later than elementary and high school. Groups of these students will get together and look up sexual acts online and then act them out, to see how it feels. Christian schools are also reporting an increase in sexually related incidents between students. Overall, by saying that experimentation is okay and expected, students have gotten a “green light” to be sexually active.

THE BIBLE SAYS

Again, the Bible is very clear on sexual issues. By setting up extreme standards regarding lust, sexual purity, and morality (Leviticus 18 & 20, Job 31:1, Matthew 5:28), the Bible removed the approval for experimentation as well. The problem with experimenting is that it opens the door to more sexual activity. The Law of Diminishing Returns shows that what is titillating and exciting today will become boring and commonplace before long. While it may be exciting to get involved in some of these “dangerous” or “frowned upon” activities, it is eroding the discovery of sex that should take place between man and wife. Instead, there is a “been there, done that” already in place before the marriage ever happens. Sex is not a wonderful and special thing between spouses that reveals God’s nature and binds the couple together. It is sullied by past experiences and mistakes.

WOMEN MUST BE SEXY

THE SITUATION

In the 2006/2007 television season, ABC introduced a show called *Ugly Betty*. It is about a “fish out of water” named Betty who works in the fashion industry. She wears goofy clothes, has braces and glasses, doesn’t pluck her eyebrows, and acts very unfashionable. Beautiful people who crack on her and have looked down on her for her looks – which honestly are far from ugly – surround her. The network was actually lauded for creating a show where the lead character was not a

DAY ONE

EVERYONE HAS SEX

THE BIBLE SAYS

Sex is reserved for a man and wife. This is spelled out in Genesis 1 and 2. This is made into law in Leviticus 18 and 20. This is reconfirmed in Romans and even Revelation. Sex is not just a recreational activity to be practiced with no thought. It is supposed to be an essential element of a marriage – and only in that setting. Ephesians 5:3 tells us to have no hint of immorality. Warnings are everywhere in the Bible – even down to “be sure your sin will find you out.”

THINK ABOUT IT

- How have your views on sex been affected by media & entertainment?

- What do you think it means to have “no hint of immorality?” Does that describe your sex life?

- What are your biggest challenges in defeating this media message? What are some things you can do to help in the battle?

- Pray and ask God to help you to live a sexual pure life. Ask Him to show you how to filter out the world’s messages and focus on His call to purity.

DAY TWO

HOMOSEXUALITY IS GENETIC

THE BIBLE SAYS

God's Word is very clear about homosexuality. It is called an abomination in Leviticus. This is repeated throughout the Bible – Romans 1, 1 & 2 Corinthians, 1 Timothy. It was the defining sin of Sodom and Gomorrah that led to their destruction. We are not to hate those who CHOOSE to participate in it – but we are to show them the truth of God's Word and help them to leave that sin behind – the same as what we should do for anyone wrestling with sin of any sort. This is not a popular opinion – and one that the Federal Government itself is attacking through potential legislation that would give homosexuals protection against “hate speech.” This would include comments like “homosexuality is wrong.”

THINK ABOUT IT

- What do you feel about homosexuality? Is that affected by media?

- Do you know any homosexuals? How do you treat them? How do you feel we are supposed to treat them according to God's Word?

- Does God's Word have an expiration date? Can culture overrule God?

- Pray and ask God to show you the truth about homosexuality - and the truth about how we as Christians should treat them. Ask Him to help you to believe in the timelessness of His Word.

DAY THREE

EXPERIMENTATION IS NORMAL

THE BIBLE SAYS

Again, the Bible is very clear on sexual issues. By setting up extreme standards regarding lust, sexual purity, and morality, the Bible removed the approval for experimentation as well. The problem with experimenting is that it opens the door to more sexual activity. The Law of Diminishing Returns shows that what is titillating and exciting today will become boring and commonplace before long. While it may be exciting to get involved in some of these “dangerous” or “frowned upon” activities, it is eroding the discovery of sex that should take place between man and wife. Instead, there is a “been there, done that” already in place before the marriage ever happens. Sex is not a wonderful and special thing between spouses that reveals God’s nature and binds the couple together. It is sullied by past experiences and mistakes.

THINK ABOUT IT

- Have you ever felt yourself tempted to experiment in something you thought was wrong? How did you handle it? How should you have?

- How does the Law of Diminishing Returns affect you regarding sex?

- Does the Bible have anything to offer us regarding sex? What can we learn by seeing God’s true plan for sex?

- Pray and ask God to help you to resist temptation when it comes to giving things a try that should be reserved for marriage - or not done at all. Ask Him to show you His true plan for human sexuality in His Word.

DAY FOUR

WOMEN MUST BE SEXY

THE BIBLE SAYS

In addition to the numerous verses about sexual purity, there are several passages about how a godly woman should carry herself. Proverbs 31 is always held up as a standard for women. If you read that passage carefully, there is even more in it than you might have thought. This woman does work and help her family. But, she also takes care of herself. She dresses well, she works out (read it – it is in there), she is social. However, she also is careful about how she presents herself to not send mixed messages. The same can be seen in Paul's letter to the Corinthians. We see where women are encouraged to not dress with many jewels and much makeup – so that they are not mistaken for the morally bankrupt women of the community. What a good guideline for a Christian woman! Yes, there is a lot of sensuality out there being pushed on women. But you don't have to give in to that. You are more than able to take a stand. Take care of yourself, dress nice – but don't cross the line to where you are advertising yourself through your actions, words, behaviors, and dress. In addition to dress, we as Christians are told to be sober in spirit – not given to sensuality. Sex is a great thing – in a marriage. Why advertise yourself when you aren't available. People are going to assume things about your character from what you put out there – be careful about what messages YOU are delivering.

THINK ABOUT IT

- Ladies, have you ever faced pressure regarding this? Guys, have you ever pressured women regarding this (even subconsciously)?

- How should men treat women? What message should women communicate through their morals, clothing, words, and actions?

- Pray and ask God to help you to resist the temptation to turn yourself into a sex object (women) - and to not treat women AS a sex object (men).