I. The _Lord_ wants us to be blameless

Rev 5:6; Ps 48:1-2; Heb 12:22; Rev 7:4-8; Eph 1;13; John 10:27-30; II Pet 2:13; Eph 1:3-4; Eph 5:25-27; Col 1:21-22

A. It requires His _work_

Eph 5:25-27; 1:3-7, 13; Rom 3:23-25; Titus 3:5; Col 1:21; Jude 24

B. It takes our work too

Col 1:21-23; II Pet 3:13-14; Phil 2:12-15

II. Blamelessness includes our _sexual_ sphere

Gen 1:27; 2:21-24; I Tim 4:1-5; Prov 18:22

A. If we're *single*, blameless means chaste and pure_

I Cor 7:25-26; I Thess 4:3; I Cor 6:18-20; Col 3:5-6; I Tim 5:2; Matt 5:8, 27-28; I Tim 1:5; Phil 4:8; Job 31:1; Ps 101:3; Eph 5:3-5

B. If we're *married*, blameless means chaste and pure

I Cor 7:1-5; Heb 13:4; Song of Solomon

III. Blamelessness includes our *speech*

A. *Lies_* are not an *option*

Rev 21:8, 27; 22:15; John 8:44; Num 23:19a; Titus 1:1-2; Eph 4:22-25; Col 3:9

B. Our *speech* can *stain* too

Phil 2:14: Prov 17:27; 10:19; 15:28; Eph 5:3-5

Small Group Questions

- 1. The word "blameless", translated from a specific Greek word, is used nine times in the New Testament. What is its basic meaning?
- 2. According to Colossians 1:21-23 (one of the passages with "blameless"), in what spiritual state do we begin our spiritual journey (give the description from your Bible version)? How close to blameless is that?
- 3. Why was it necessary, as it is revealed in Ephesians 5:25-27 (another use of our word) that Christ "give Himself" for us? What did that accomplish? How is that applied to a person?
- 4. What does it mean to be "justified"? Which of our problems before God does that address?
- 5. It takes His work to change our inner person. What is the process of that work called? How does God do that?
- 6. What is our contribution to that work (see question above)?
- 7. What are the "blameless" sexual standards for an unmarried follower of Christ? What are the standards for a married follower? What might those look like?
- 8. What specific temptations/battles are most difficult for you in the sexual arena of spiritual life? How have you learned to be wiser in your dealing with those?
- 9. "Lies are not an option for a blameless walk before God." Why is that? What options are there for us when we don't think it is wise to tell someone the whole truth?