Footloose: The Problem With Dancing

David Banning · Series: **Social Issues**

INTRODUCTION

- Hollywood was trying to say to us that anyone who has a problem with dancing surely must be cut from the same cloth as this old preacher.
- There's a lot of pressure to go along if it's what everyone else is doing.
- Once we understand what's really going on, suddenly it doesn't seem like such an extreme thing to ask the question, is this really the kind of thing our kids ought to be doing?

1 Three Standards That Should Not Be Used

- We can't decide this based upon what our brethren have always believed.
- This is not an issue that's to be decided based on whatever people think about it, whether they think it's wrong or whether they think it's right.
- We don't decide this issue based on what will be easier for our kids.
- When we do that, what we have done is we've taught our children how to be worldly, not godly.
- This issue will not be decided only by a plain statement of Scripture.
- Most of the time, what God gives us are principles that he expects us to take and put into our hearts and apply in our lives.

2 The Only Standard: What God Would Want

John 14:15; 1 Corinthians 11:1; 1 Peter 1:14–16

- The only standard that must be used in deciding this question is figuring out what God would want us to do.
- Our love for Jesus and our desire to be sure that everything we do pleases him.
- Disciples of Jesus want to be like him. Paul says, be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.
- Another principle that influences a Christian's behavior and his moral choices is his desire to be holy.
- We say, what is sin so I can be sure that I don't get anywhere close.
- A fourth principle that governs our choices is the desire we have always in our conduct to reflect well on the master and his call.

3 Two Bible Principles About Sexual Purity

Hebrews 13:4; Matthew 5:27–28; Galatians 5:19

- The major issue with dancing involves the conflict between dancing behaviors and Bible principles about sexual purity.
- The Bible teaches that there is only one lawful relationship where sexual desires can be satisfied.
- We should not be engaged in behaviors that stir up sexual desires in relationships where they cannot be satisfied.

- It tells us where sexual sin begins. It doesn't begin with the act, it begins in the mind and the thought and the lust.
- Impurity is actually a broad term that includes not only fornication and adultery, but that also includes the thoughts and the words and the actions that lead up to them.

4 Dancing Involves Behavior That Stirs Up Sexual Desires

- What is the problem with dancing? It is simply this that dancing involves behavior that stirs up sexual desires.
- What is happening at modern dancing, at school dance, is the epitome of sensuality.
- I would suggest to you that even the more traditional forms of dancing create some of the same problems.
- We can't control the mind of the other person. And if I'm sharing in them in provocative behavior, I'm sharing with them in that sin and demonstrating that I don't really love them.
- The only ones who don't get this are Christians who insist on doing things that they know they ought not to be doing.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Can I honestly say that I know I'm pleasing God when I'm out there with my boyfriend or my girlfriend on that dance floor? Can I say with confidence, this is what God wants me to do, and I know that.**

MY NOTES