

(CA2) EMAPW 6 – Pornography: Was I Under Demonic Attack? Part 2**Theme music**

FOSTER: Our last program was the first part of a two-part discussion on spiritual warfare. We talked about Satan, who he is, how he wants to defeat us, and how he knows exactly how to tempt men in the area of lust and pornography. We learned that each temptation is created for each man individually. Consequently, we discussed the need to put on the whole armor of God to defend ourselves against Satan's temptations. But are there certain things we do or not do that can make us more vulnerable to temptation?

Welcome to Champions Arise. I'm Foster Braun and Kent Darcie is with me. Today, as we continue our series on men and pornography, we are going to look at six things that can cause us to be more vulnerable to temptation. Because we will be discussing sexual issues, even though we will not speak in an explicit way, parents still may want move children to where they can't hear us. We have a fascinating and encouraging program ahead. Please stay with us here at Champions Arise.

Music Theme in

FOSTER: Kent, everyone is touched by spiritual warfare, but for Christian men, it just seems like it's more intense. Do you think that's true?

KENT: I don't know that it is more than what women experience, but as the head of the household, if Satan can get the man's heart off God, often the family, particularly the children, will drift from God as well. So I think the stakes are higher when a Christian man falls because of his influence on his wife and family and society in general.

FOSTER: But today we're going to discuss six things that can make us more vulnerable to lust and pornography. What is the first one.

KENT: The first one is Stress. When we are under stress we want an escape. We want relief.

FOSTER: And there are positive and negative ways we can relieve our stress.

KENT: Yes. On the positive side, we can read Bible verses, listen to encouraging Christian music, exercise, or enjoy a hobby or other activity.

On the negative side, we can try to reduce stress by doing things like overeat, drink to excess, take illegal drugs, or, in our context, lust over women and use pornography. In this way of reducing stress we will also do we'll call here—self pleasuring or self-gratification.

FOSTER: Basically, creating pleasure with our own hands.

KENT: Yes. And later in this series we're going to discuss this, because there is a lot of confusion in the church about whether self-pleasuring is biblical or not. And at Champions Arise, we feel it's important to address these issues head on.

FOSTER: If we're going to be the men God is calling us to be, we have to speak the truth about these issues. So the first thing that can make us vulnerable to temptation is stress.

KENT: Yes. And Paul wrote about a wonderful reliever of stress in Philippians 4 verses 6 and 7. *“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*

FOSTER: “Peace” instead of “stress”. Sounds good. And what's the next thing?

KENT: The second thing that can make us more vulnerable to temptation is being Tired. Satan loves to attack when we are tired mentally, physically, emotionally, or spiritually.

FOSTER: That is very true. I love Psalm 127 verse 2 that says, *“It is useless for you to work so hard from early morning until late at night, anxiously working for food to eat; for God gives rest to his loved ones.”*

KENT: Real rest, particularly in western cultures seems almost non-existent. If we'd all take that verse to heart... wow.

FOSTER: And before we get to the third thing, I want to remind our listeners that you're listening to Champions Arise. I'm Foster Braun and the other voice you're hearing is Kent Darcie. We are presenting a series of programs that deal with men and pornography—which is a problem that is felt around the globe. Because of the sexual nature of our conversation, it may not be appropriate for children, who you may want to move to a different room. But we're glad you joined us today.

So Kent, what is the third item that makes men more vulnerable to lust and pornography?

KENT: Being alone. Most of us would never look at whatever form of pornography we're using if people were around. Now some men will look at porn with their wife or look at nude women in magazines before being sexually intimate with their wife, but this is so contrary to how God wants us to treat our wife and think about women in general.

FOSTER: You know, I'll hear men say that sometimes, or the wife will mention it and my heart is so sad for her.

KENT: I've heard it too. And these men, first don't understand the biblical model for healthy sexuality, and second, have no idea how humiliating, alienating, degrading, and devaluing it is to their wives to feel like their competing with these fake women. I read the statement that in regards to pornography, we're lusting after women who if they actually met us, would have nothing to do with us.

FOSTER: So in fantasizing over the women in pornography, we're making women who would have nothing to do with us in real life, more important than our wives—who are actually with us in real life.

KENT: Yes. And here's another thing. Sometimes a man will tell me that his wife bought the pornography for them to look at.

FOSTER: Really?! Why would she do that?

KENT: Some wives, particularly newer wives, don't understand the addictive nature of pornography. They're not aware of the long-term negative affect its going to have on sexual intimacy with their husband. Others want to please their husband. But regardless, my friend, if you are looking at pornography with your wife, or before you're sexually intimate with your wife, you keep magazines by your bed to look at, Stop, Now! Confess your sin to God, and your wife, and commit to what Proverbs 5 verse 19 says: *"let your wife's breasts always satisfy you."*

FOSTER: I hope our listeners take that to heart Kent. Okay, so far we've learned that being stressed, tired, and alone can make us vulnerable to lusting over women and using pornography. What is number 4?

KENT: Being bored. My mother used to say, "idle hands are the devil's workshop." And if you're bored and just searching the internet for nothing in particular, Satan will make sure you see something that will entice you to sin.

FOSTER: And the 5th thing?

KENT: The fifth thing that can make us vulnerable to Satan's attacks is being under the influence of a substance. Being buzzed or tipsy. We will often do things drunk or high (when our inhibitions are lower) that we would never do when we're clear-headed. Ephesians 5 verse 18 says, *"And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit."*

FOSTER: Being under the influence of anything but God's Holy Spirit rarely produces positive results.

KENT: Even in the Bible we see that. Remember what happened to Lot? By God's grace, Lot survives the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, but afterward, his daughters get him drunk and are sexually intimate with him. As a result, Lot fathered his own grandchildren.

FOSTER: Not a good situation. It doesn't seem to matter whether its alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, prescription drugs, or something else, we make ourselves very vulnerable to Satan's temptations when we're under the influence of something.

So being under the influence can make us vulnerable as can being stressed, tired, alone, and bored. Kent, what is the last thing that can open us up to Satan's lustful attacks?

KENT: Coming off a spiritual high.

FOSTER: Wait. Aren't spiritual highs good things? What do you mean?

KENT: Let me give you an example. Elijah called down fire from heaven and killed all the prophets of Baal right?

FOSTER: yes.

KENT: What happened next?

FOSTER: um...Jezebel threatened him and he fled for his life.

KENT: That's what happened. Right after his amazing spiritual high, he was apparently vulnerable to fear. Because shortly after that victory, we read in 1 Kings chapter 19 that he's depressed and asking God to take his life. But the point is, sometimes when we have tremendous spiritual breakthroughs or victories, we can let our guard down and we can be

vulnerable. Sometimes its pride. And 1 Cor. 10 verse 12 says “therefore let anyone who thinks he stands, take heed, lest he fall.”

FOSTER: I wouldn't have thought spiritual highs could make us vulnerable.

KENT: Normally you'd think the opposite would be true.

FOSTER: So Kent let's review what we've covered.

KENT: Okay. We discussed that as men and the spiritual leaders of the home, Satan is particularly interested in causing us to sin so our witness and testimony is destroyed. Lust and pornography is an effective weapon against us. But six things can make us more vulnerable to his attacks.

When we're stressed.

When we're tired

When we're alone

When we're bored

When we're under the influence of something like alcohol, marijuana, prescription drugs or something else.

And the last thing is after we experience a spiritual high we can be more vulnerable to Satan's attacks.

FOSTER: It seems like all of us could be in one of those conditions at some time.

KENT: True. That's why it's important to be in a men's group or in a mentor relationship where you have some accountability. We all need to receive encouragement, support, and prayer.

FOSTER: Speaking of prayer, I think we should take a moment and pray for the men listening. I believe the Lord has touched some hearts today and they are ready to take their battle with pornography more seriously. Kent, could you pray for us please?

KENT: Sure, my listening friend I invite you to pray these words after I say them.

- “Lord Jesus,
- thank You for dying for me
- and for Your death, burial, and resurrection
- on my behalf.
- I acknowledge again
- Your lordship over me

- and rejoice that I am part of Your family
- because of Your finished work on the cross.
- In Your name, Lord Jesus,
- I renounce all sinful activities
- connected with pornography
- and lust in my life.
- By the power of Your name
- and Your blood,
- I command any and all demons
- of lust and pornography,
- impure thoughts and immorality
- to leave me
- and to go where you send them.
- Thank you, Lord,
- for Your might, and power,
- and for the authority You have given me
- as one of Your children.”
- Amen.

FOSTER: Thanks Kent. We'll be right back on Champions Arise.

Program Close

FOSTER: Thank you for listening to Champions Arise where men are equipped and strengthened to meet their God-given potential. Today we reviewed six things that can increase men's vulnerability when Satan's attacks with lustful thoughts and temptations. You can listen to any of the programs in this series on our website championsarise.org.

I'm Foster Braun with Kent Darcie. I hope you'll join us as we continue our discussion on men and pornography in our next program. Until then, thank you for listening to Champions Arise. May God mold you into the man He knows you can be.

Closing ID

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