

**(CA2) EMAPW 8 – Pornography is Meeting a Need in Your Life Part 2****Theme music****FOSTER:**

On our last program, we discussed how, even though we don't realize it, pornography is meeting a need we have in our life. The bad news is it just pretends to meet our needs. The worse news is it prevents God from filling our needs like having a safe place to be, having respect, and having healthy relationships. But the good news, actually the great news, is that with God all things are possible. The desire to quit using pornography can be overcome. And we're here to help.

Welcome to Champions Arise. I'm Foster Braun and I'm with Kent Darcie. Today, we continue our series on men and pornography by identifying needs pornography may be trying to fill in our life. In our last program, we discussed how men use pornography to fill the need for a refuge (or safe place), for respect, and for relationships.

Today we'll look at three more needs men use pornography to fill. But we need to warn parents that, though we won't speak in a sexually explicit way, this conversation will not be appropriate for children. And that conversation begins when we return to Champions Arise.

***Music Theme in***

**FOSTER:** Kent, learning that pornography fills a need was very informative for me. I found it particularly interesting how the fear of rejection was in the background of the needs for a refuge, respect, and relationships.

**KENT:** The need to belong is powerful. We see that in kids and it continues for most of us, to some degree, in our adulthoods.

**FOSTER:** In western culture, for example, that is one reason why we wear the clothes we do.

**KENT:** True. You don't wear a big wide tie when everyone else is wearing thin ties.

**FOSTER:** You mean your wife won't let you wear that tie.

**KENT:** (laughter) okay the truth is out. I would wear that tie, because I love that tie.

**FOSTER:** I'm glad she's there to keep you on the right tie path.

**KENT:** Me too. But, thankfully, that is not the type of need we're looking at today.

**FOSTER:** No it isn't. In our last program, we learned that men need refuge, respect, and relationships and will use pornography to try to fill those needs. What is the next need men use pornography to fill?

**KENT:** Men use pornography as a reward. *"I've had a tough day. I work hard. I accomplished a task. I deserve some me time with a sexy woman."*

**FOSTER:** I can see where we'd use that as an excuse to use pornography.

**KENT:** Yes, but if we were raised in a home where we didn't receive affirmations or encouragement, we could be more vulnerable to using pornography as a reward. Again, this is not excusing the sinful behavior. It's simply explaining a possible cause.

**FOSTER:** And what is the next need pornography is used to fill.

**KENT:** Revenge.

**FOSTER:** Revenge?

**KENT:** Yes. Here's an example. At breakfast Sue tells Joe that they are going to have a date night that night. That is code for being sexually intimate. So all day Joe is looking forward to a night of enjoying being married—if you know what I mean.

**FOSTER:** I do indeed.

**KENT:** They get home from work, have a nice dinner, and the phone rings. It's her boss, who is upset that something didn't get done correctly. She gets off the phone, and is too upset to continue the mood of the evening.

On the outside, Joe is very understanding. On the inside, he's angry at her boss and angry at her. So after she goes to bed, he goes to the computer, overrides the filters and lusts over other women. If you looked into Joe's mind you'd see anger, spite, and a sense of revenge.

**FOSTER:** He blames her for his sin.

**KENT:** Yes. He wants to be on the computer anyway. Now he has his excuse. And remember we talked about spiritual warfare a couple of programs ago. Satan had Joe in the exact mental state he wanted him in. Joe didn't turn to the Spirit with his pain, anger, and annoyance, he chose to turn to the flesh. Exactly what Satan wanted.

**FOSTER:** Satan is so crafty.

**KENT:** Yes, but he doesn't even have to work hard. That's why I'm glad we are looking at these areas where he tries to lead us to sinning with pornography. Because if we can identify the need pornography is meeting, we can give that need over to God to meet.

**FOSTER:** Which is always the best way to fill a need. And before we get to the last need, I'm Foster Braun and I'm with Kent Darcie. This program is called Champions Arise. It's a program by men for men and we're doing a series of programs on men and pornography. Today we are finishing our look at needs men use pornography to fill. Due to the sexual nature of this conversation, though we won't get explicit, we still recommend that children not hear this discussion.

So Kent what is the last need.

**KENT:** The last need men use pornography to fill is redemption. What I mean is, think of the medieval monasteries where monks would beat or cut themselves for their sins. They believed that only after they were bruised, broken, and bleeding, that God would have pity on them.

**FOSTER:** Which is so far from the truth

**KENT:** Yes, but there are men who believe that only when they are filled with shame, guilt, and self-disgust, that God will show them pity and grace. Maybe they had a troubled childhood. Whatever the reason, they believe that using pornography puts them in a position where God is willing to minister to them.

**FOSTER:** So, the six needs we've looked at that we use pornography to fill are refuge, respect, relationships, reward, revenge and redemption. And you said that the fear of rejection was in the background of at least the first three.

**KENT:** Yes. But there is something that ties all six together. And Colossians 3 verse 5 addresses it. The verse says, "*Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.*" Whenever we seek to fill our needs by something other than God, we make that thing our God—our provider. So if we're using pornography to fill our need for reward, then that is our idol. That is where we are bowing down and worshiping. Not to the great God Jehovah.

**FOSTER:** That is very serious.

**KENT:** It is. The first of the ten commandments is "*you shall have no other gods before me*". In the book of Joshua chapter 24 verse 15 Joshua challenges the people to "*choose for yourselves this day who you will serve.*" Jesus said in Matthew 6 verse 24, "*No one can serve two masters.*"

*Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other.”*

And I want to ask our listeners. Is that you my friend? Are you worshiping at the altar of lust and pornography? Is that the god you've chosen to fill your needs? There's a better way.

**FOSTER:** Absolutely.

**KENT:** Foster, I read that we worship our way into an addiction, by continually yielding our hearts to whatever fills our needs. It could be alcohol, drugs, video games, or gambling. But today it seems like pornography and sexual sin is a big idol for many men.

**FOSTER:** Kent, I believe there are men listening who are saying, *“that's me! I've been worshiping at the wrong altar and I want to stop.”* What can they do?

**KENT:** As we said, we worship the idol that we think fills our needs. We focus our time, energy, money, and our hearts on pursuing the god of pornography. We need to focus our time, energy, and hearts on worshiping the Lord.

**FOSTER:** *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.”*

**KENT:** Yes when we choose to fill our minds with God, it's tough for pornography to squeeze it's way in.

**FOSTER:** And that takes doing the things we've talked about in other programs.

**KENT:** It's very important that we are having our quiet time with God every day. In that time, we read our Bible, meditate on it, pray to God about what we've read, and seek ways we can apply it to our lives.

**FOSTER:** We've also talked about the importance of accountability.

**KENT:** True. Jesus sent the disciples out two-by-two. Later you see Paul with Silas. Barnabus with John-Mark. Going in pairs helped protect them from external threats like robbers, but also helped protect them from internal threats like temptations. It is very important, particularly for someone struggling with pornography, to have a strong Christian accountability partner. Someone who will ask you tough questions like, last night, did you look at anything you wouldn't want your pastor to know about?

**FOSTER:** Kent these two programs have been very helpful and convicting. Can you review what we've discussed today please?

**KENT:** I'd love to. We learned about three additional needs men try to fill with pornography. They were rewards, revenge, and redemption. We also described our dependence on pornography as idolatry—as substitute for the real true Jehovah God and His only Son, Jesus Christ. And we discussed how we worshiped our way into a dependence on pornography. We will need to worship our way out.

**FOSTER:** Kent, you recited a prayer for our listeners a couple of programs ago—a prayer of repentance from lusting and using pornography. Can you say that prayer again?

**KENT:** Sure. My listening friend, I encourage you to repeat what I say as a prayer—but only if you mean it.

- “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. My friend, I hope you prayed that prayer. I hope you chose to return God to His rightful place—number one in your life. Remember the words Paul wrote to the Galatian church:

*“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”*

We’ll be right back.

### **Program Close**

**FOSTER:** Thank you for listening to Champions Arise where men are equipped and strengthened to meet their God-given potential. This was the second of a two-part program that explored the needs men have, but are using pornography to meet those needs. You can learn more about men and pornography by listening to other programs in this series on our website [championsarise.org](http://championsarise.org).

I’m Foster Braun with Kent Darcie. I hope you’ll join us next time as we continue our series on men and pornography. 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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