For What are Bodies? Ray Stedman

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- A. Text: I Corinthians 6:12-20.
- B. Legalism looks at life saying that everything is wrong while the Christian looks at everything as right except what God's Word has labeled wrong.
- II. Paul never retreats into legalism, but he reminds the Corinthians that all truth must be balanced.
 - A. The pathway of liberty is always a narrow path.
 - B. The moment one's liberty begins to hurt someone else he has fallen into license.
 - C. The things that are not helpful are always enslaving.
- III. The Corinthians argued that it was natural to satisfy needs as a natural act of the body.
 - A. Paul responds that digestion is temporary, but sexuality touches the soul at a deeper level.
 - B. Worship is a form of sexual expression—worship is an expression of hunger to be possessed by God.
 - C. Man was made to be indwelt by God—the body was made for the Lord.
- IV. Every act of prostitution is involving the Lord in the act because He indwells a person.
 - A. A mystical union occurs in the act of sex that cannot be undone.
 - B. Fornication has an effect on the body unlike other sins because it defiles the temple of God—the believer—by offering to another as idolatry.

Application questions:

1. Why must limits be put on liberty for liberty to be maintained?		
2. How is Worship a form of sexual expression?		
3. Why does fornication bring different effects upon a person than other sins? Explain.		