“Sexual Purity and Your Relationships”
Ephesians 5:3-7

Thoughts:
1. Need for total purity – not even a hint
2. What phrase seems strange or out of place in this section? “But rather thanksgiving…”
3. Two main items in view: sexual immorality and greed. What is the link between the two? Both involve the subject of worship.
4. Paul argues from what we are—God’s holy people—to what we should do
5. Some ideas re sex…
   - Sexual differences and desires were created by God and are good
   - Sin seeks to twist and pervert what God created into rebellious actions against God
   - True Christians can have struggles with sexual sins – Col 3:5; Rm 13:13-14; 1 Cor 6:18-20
   - Both males and females struggle with sexual sin, although both may fall into sexual temptation in different ways. For example, men might be more susceptible to temptation through visual desires, but women through relationship desires.
6. How do you “cure” sexual immorality?
   - Realize the deep roots of this sin. Sexual immorality comes from a defective worship and knowledge of God. We must set our desires on God. Consider Rm 1:21-25; 1 Th 4:5; cf. Rev 9:20-21
   - Remember the truth of redemption. 1 Cor 6:18-20
   - Reform your lifestyle to follow your new leader, the Holy Spirit. Gal 5:22-25
   - React to sexual sin strongly—kill it. Col 3:5
   - Respect marriage and God’s order for marriage. Heb 13:4; 1 Cor 7:1-5
7. Paul uses the fear of God’s wrath as a motive.
8. Sexual immorality may take verbal forms: obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking.
9. Paul warns against deception by false teachers.

Introduction:

Exposition:
I.

II.

III.