

# A Godly Example

by Erlo Stegen

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of purity, integrity, and setting a good example, especially for young people, and warns against the dangers of pornography.*

**Duration:** 21:11

**Scripture:** Matthew 5:16, 1 Corinthians 10:31, Ephesians 5:3, Philippians 2:15, 1 Timothy 4:12, Titus 2:7, 1 Peter 2:12

**Topics:** "Living Worthy"

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## Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of being a good example, especially to young people. He mentions a survey conducted in American jails, which found that over 90% of serial killers admitted to using pornography when they were young. The preacher urges the congregation to set a clear pattern of integrity and to be a positive influence on both believers and unbelievers. He also highlights the alarming statistics of the pornographic industry, stating that the average age of those involved is 11 years old. The sermon concludes with Bible verses encouraging young people to be examples in speech, life, love, faith, and purity.

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## Transcript

Now, today, you know that there's an engagement of Dorothy, Dorothea, after that is my last born and then we've been through them all. So I said to my last born, well be thankful because you're going to be the spinster girl and look after me. Now, all our children, I made sure that I named them.

My wife didn't get the chance. When they were born, all these children, I was in other countries. Except for Elizabeth and Dorothea, I was here.

When Elizabeth was born, I named her that because Elizabeth means the house of the Lord. The house of grace of the Lord. When Dorothea was born, I named her Dorothea because it means the gift of the Lord.

In Greek, it is the combination of those two words which make up the word Dorothy, which is gift of the Lord. Now, the Mkwenyana or bridegroom-to-be comes from Germany. Now, when that happened, others said to me, just don't dare allow the last born, Esther, to be taken overseas as well.

Her calling is here in Africa. She's not to go overseas. Now, the young man is from Germany.

His name in German is Artur Schmunk. I'll ask him and her to come forward, please. You see, I'm standing between them.

For it is not yet the wedding. So, I don't leave this position before they're married. On their wedding day, of course, I will remove myself and they'll be together.

But still, this is a wall of separation because it's only the engagement. There's still apartheid here in the sense of this type of separation, and it'll come to an end with the wedding. Not visiting each other, cell phone calling each other.

They're not married. Now, the bridegroom-to-be comes from Germany. Her calling is here in Africa.

She's not to go overseas as well. Her calling is here in Germany. I want them to stand before the altar in purity, in true innocence, so that when I remove the veil from her head, as is customary as a father, I want to know that it is genuinely so, and the same with him, that she would be a pure virgin and he as well.

Now, here's the ring, which he gives to my daughter, Dorothea. By that, he is engaging himself, which means he's promising himself to be pure, separated for her when they get married. And Dorothea, in receiving this ring, is saying the same.

I keep myself, I promise myself to you, I engage myself to you promising purity before marriage. I will be absolutely set aside, separated unto the Lord before heaven and earth. This is a vow.

Now, this ring is somewhat different. The two diamonds on the side and a blue stone in the middle, they've done it differently, symbolizing heaven. Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, here are your children. We present them before you. Today they get engaged before us, saying they want to stay pure, to be kept absolutely spotless until the day of their marriage.

Amen. We close with the word of the Lord. Titus 2 verse 7 In everything, set them an example by doing what is good.

In everything, set them an example by doing what is good. Matthew 4 verse 12 Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. You, Arthur, and you, Dorothea, The Bible says that you are to strive to be a good example to everyone around you.

In purity, self-control, good works. We are in a time where we desperately need young people who are an example to everyone in the world. Actually, everyone needs to be a good example, but in particular, young people.

Yesterday, somebody passed me the Natal Witness newspaper. I was shocked when I read something in it. They described what young people can see, pornographic things, through the internet.

It is said that the business side of it is over 8 billion a year regarding pornographic deals on the internet. And that the average age of those who are into this is 11 years of age. Are there people in our midst? Are there those who look at pornography on the internet? I ask you to, even if you don't respond here, respond to God, because what you are seeing is introducing poison into your system.

It is sharpening you to be a slave of lust. We thank God for releasing us from the slavery of apartheid, but may the Lord deliver us from falling into a new type of slavery of pornography. Where we are ruled by that, we are in the pit of that.

I ask you to, even if you don't respond here, respond to God, because what you are seeing is introducing poison into your system. Now, you Arthur and Dorothea, you who stood here, the Bible says you be an example, a pattern set before people. Satan, one of his names is Diabolus, which means the one who mixes things up, turns things back to front.

Now we need young people who will set the order, the pattern, in the correct way again, that you'd be the right example. Satan, one of his names is Diabolus, which means the one who mixes things up, turns things back to front. Now we need young people who will set the order, the pattern, in the correct way again, that you'd be the right example.

As you find a pattern when material is sown, it's done according to a certain pattern. Now you set the pattern of what a proper life of integrity is as a young person. Over 90%! In a survey conducted in American jails of those who are serial killers, it was discovered that over 90% of them admitted to using pornography when they were young.

In a survey conducted in American jails of those who are serial killers, it was discovered that over 90% of them admitted to using pornography when they were young. Nobody is too young. So I give you this word today, be the pattern, be the example to young people, to everybody, and not just to the unbelievers, but to the believers as well.

Because people in the church are confused, mixed up, you need to set a clear pattern, return back to integrity. And in word and in speech and how you behave in your works, the way that you are, shall we pray. We thank you so much, our God, for what you've done for us today.

You've blessed us. We thank you for your presence. And to be visited by people who you have put into such a high position.

And Lord, as we now are heading into this election, we pray that you will be gracious and help people to be able to vote in a way that pleases you. We pray for our leaders, all those in authority. Lord, all of those who ever, from the first to the last, may your name be hallowed among the people.

Let your will be done on earth as it is done in heaven. May your kingdom come. And all this we ask in the name of Jesus.

Amen. God be with you all until we meet again. Thank you.

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