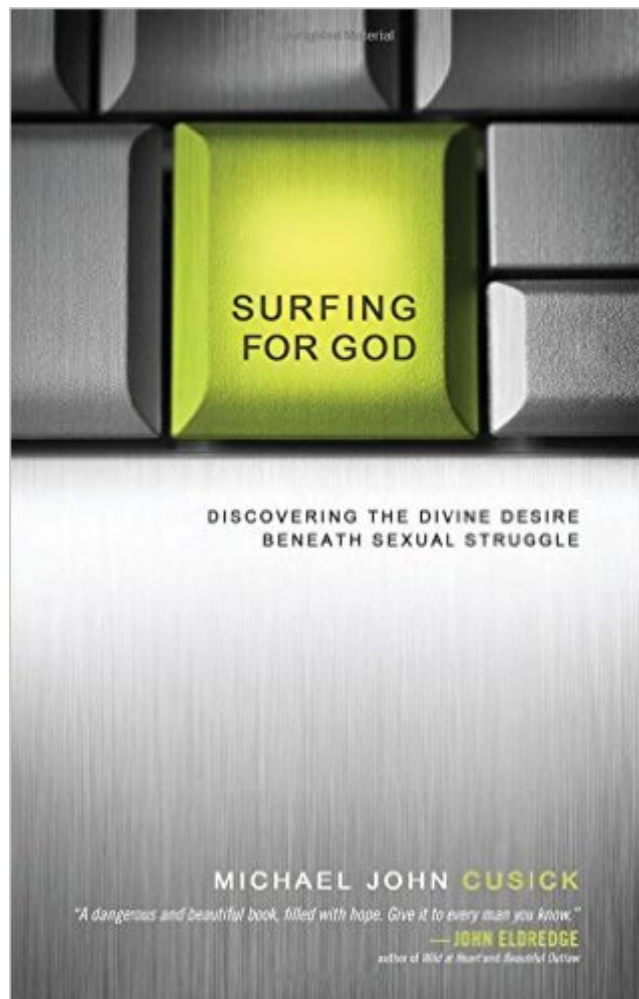


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Surfing For God: Discovering The Divine Desire Beneath Sexual Struggle



Synopsis

“Every man who knocks on the door of a brothel is knocking for God.” — G. K. Chesterton

What if lust for porn is really a search for true passion? In a world where there are 68 million searches for pornography every day and where over 70 percent of Christian men report viewing porn in the last year, it's no surprise that more and more men struggle with an addiction to this false fantasy. Common wisdom says if they just had more willpower or more faith, their fight would be over. Is the answer really that simple? According to the counselor and ministry leader Michael John Cusick, the answer is no—but the big truth may be much more freeing. Backed by scripture, Cusick uses examples from his own life and from his twenty years of counseling experience to show us how the pursuit of empty pleasure is really a search for our heart's deepest desire—and the real key to resistance is discovering and embracing the joy we truly want. Cusick's insights help readers understand how porn struggles begin, what to do to prevent them, and most importantly, how to overcome the compulsion once it begins. In the end, this powerful book shows us all how the barrier built by porn addiction can become a bridge to abundant life.

Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Thomas Nelson (June 4, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0849947235

ISBN-13: 978-0849947230

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.3 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (173 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #20,909 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Theology > Ethics #103 in Books > Self-Help > Sex #356 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Theology

Customer Reviews

Pornography is a real problem. Consider these statistics: -25% of search engine requests are for pornography - 68 million per day. -70% of the hits on Internet sex sites occur between 9-5 on business computers. -Over 50 percent of evangelical pastors report they viewed pornography last year. -Over 70% of Christian men report viewing pornography in the last year. And I would say, that as a whole Christians have responded rather poorly to what amounts to a sin epidemic in our

culture. So I am happy to recommend a book which gets at the heart of some of the issues which are tangled up with pornography. Michael John Cusick is an ordained minister, licensed professional counselor and spiritual director. He is also is a recovering sex addict (living in freedom) who had an addiction to pornography, strip clubs, masturbation and prostitution. He sees the bankruptcy of a life in bondage, but he also knows that men act out in sexual sins because they are broken and wounded. But before I tell you about this book, let me briefly tell you where I think other Christian approaches get this wrong. One popular Christian book seems to say: Objectifying other women is wrong, just objectify your wife. She is there primarily for your sexual pleasure (based on a reading of Job's famous 'covenant with his eyes in Job 31). Women who are not your spouse are sources of temptation and should be avoided at all costs. You should also avoid places like parks, the beach, roads that women jog on, supermarkets, hair salons and shopping malls.

"Every man who knocks on the door of a brothel is looking for God." - G.K. Chesterton

Author Michael John Cusick has offered a fresh text on the battle within a man's heart over lust. It is clear within the text that the Cusick knows what he is writing about. He understands the battle within a man's soul and this what he can discover in porn is broken promises, emptiness and major hurt - that trickles outside of the computer screen into reality of relationships and life. In the text, the author exposes pornography for what it is - SIN. It is dangerous. It is NOT a game. It will leave a man lonely, damaged and scarred with major repercussions that ripple into the avenues of his life. One of the circumstances that come with porn struggle is that it takes a man and turns him into a control freak. When a man is searching for porn, he is never told no by a porn film. With one or one-hundred clicks of a mouse, a man can see whatever he wants without ever being told no. This action then follows him when he walks away from his computer and he envisions this control in all avenues of life...therefore damaging his interpersonal relationship skills. If you've never understood the clear lies of porn, please read this book. The exposing of the broken & empty promises are so clear and true.

G.K. Chesterton once remarked, "When a man knocks on a brothel door he is really searching for God." In his book, *Surfing for God: Discovering the Divine Desire Beneath Sexual Struggle*, Michael John Cusick argues that in today's society, "When a man surfs the Internet for porn he is really surfing for God." Using anecdotes from his own life and the lives of those he has ministered to (with permission, I assume), modern psychological development, and spiritual direction, Cusick offers the reader a way forward to wholeness. Cusick takes a look at one of our culture's most debilitating

accessible struggles - lust and pornography. Quoting C.S. Lewis, Cusick explains from the outset why surfing for porn is so dangerous, "In the end, [imaginary women] become the medium through which he [the porn addict] adores himself. After all, the main work of life is to come out of ourselves, out of the little, dark prison we are all born in. . . . All things are to be avoided which retard this process. The danger is that of coming to love the prison." Pornography is so dangerous because it can so easily become a prison we love. The problem we face with pornography is that it promises so much - without cost! Cusick identifies six such promises that pornography offers and explains why each is false and runs counter to being created in the image of God. The promises are: You can be a man without having to possess relational strength. You can be sexually fulfilled without the necessity of relational investment. You can be intimate with a "woman" without having to risk anything. You can have a purposeful and meaningful life without any real connection to your own soul.

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