



teens:

# Empowered for Impact

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses ... to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

devotion

## Going Overboard:

Promiscuity

**Bible verse:** Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your body (1 Corinthians 6:19–20).

**Journal Entry:** My friends and I got into a big discussion tonight about how far is too far with sex. I think everyone agreed that going all the way is too far when you're not married (even though some of my friends have already done it). But each of us had different ideas of how far is okay. Someone in the group said that even passionate kissing is too far if the attitude is wrong.

That turned the conversation to the differences between love and lust. Everyone kind of agreed that if it's just lust, then no matter what it is, it's wrong; but if you love the person, then anything but "all the way" is okay. It sounds logical enough, but for some reason it just doesn't seem right to me. I don't think I'm old enough to really "love" someone — the way you're supposed to when you're married, anyway. And I think that all that stuff should be special. I want it to be special.

The Bible verse on Mom's desk calendar for today said that our bodies are a temple of the Holy Spirit. It said that because Jesus paid the price

to save us, we should honor God in the ways we use our bodies. My friends will probably think I'm a prude for thinking this way, but I'm going to make a promise to myself and to God to use my body only in ways that show honor to Him — especially in the area of dating and sex.

**Prayer:** Dear God, it is hard to wrap my head around the fact that You paid for my life by giving up Yours. Help me to honor Your sacrifice by using my body to bring glory to You and not just to please myself or others. Give me the courage to resist sexual temptations. Give me the strength to stand by my promise. Amen.

**Questions for consideration:** Who do you go to when you have questions about sex? How do you handle situations where you think things might go too far? When you consider the incredible sacrifice Jesus paid for your life, how does it change the way you think about yourself and your purpose on earth?

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## Teen News

Teens from Holy Cross Youth Group in Onida, South Dakota, stepped out of their comfort zone at the South Dakota State Fair to hand out tickets and personally invite people to attend the daily puppet show written by Reverends Bob and Andrew Utecht. Recalling that even Jeremiah doubted his ability to express his faith — I do not know how to speak; I am only a child (Jeremiah 1:6) — the teens became less nervous and more at ease in expressing their joy for the Lord as the day went on.

