

Why Do Men Cheat?

In my opinion, the best movie about Vietnam is *We Were Soldiers* starring Mel Gibson. He plays lieutenant general Hal Moore who commanded the first major battle of that war known as the Battle of Ia Drang.

Surrounded and facing overwhelming odds, Moore and his soldiers withstood the onslaught for a week. One of the things Moore credits as a reason for the success was the love and devotion the soldiers had for one another. However, equally as important, was Moore's consistent studying of the battlefield and knowledge of his enemy.

He knew their strategies and the angles they would take to attack. This enabled him to position his forces in places that gave the greatest chance of victory.

In marriage, it is important to have love and devotion to one another. However, it is also equally important to know the temptations and pitfalls that attack marriage. One of the biggest enemies of marriage is infidelity. Knowing this enemy inside and out will help us remain faithful. Tomorrow, we will discuss why women cheat. Today we answer the question, "Why Do Men Cheat?"

Note: These are reasons, not justifications. Cheating is never justifiable under any circumstances.

Unconnected Relationship With Christ

If you are a believer, this goes without saying. If you are even tempted to cheat, run to your Bible and get engrossed in the Word.

Unfulfilled Emotional Needs

This seems to be the top reason. Most men who cheat consistently have expressed feeling disconnected from their

wives. Men and women were both created for relationships. The need for emotional connection is innate in all of us, man or woman. However, physical affection and sex is an important way for men to feel emotionally connected with their wives. When that isn't happening, it is easy for men to become withdrawn. When husbands emotionally drift from their wives, other connections will act like gravity.

Win Early: Work tirelessly to connect with your wife. When you feel yourself drifting, do whatever it takes to keep your feet secured in your marriage. Go out on dates, talk, find something new to experience together. Never stop, ever.

The Thrill, Insecurity and Ego

There are many men that simply love the excitement of the chase. The feeling of meeting a challenge and winning her over. It makes them feel powerful and attractive. This feeling is particularly enticing when a man feels neglected by his wife. A neglected man will feel rejected and insecure with a bruised ego. As a result, they go hunting to regain the sense of power and self-confidence they have lost.

Win Early: True power cannot be attained in the affirmation of others. The greatest and most challenging test for any man is to romance and pursue the same woman for a lifetime. Wake up every day and ask the question: "How can I win my wife today?"

Distraction

Being a husband and father is stressful. A man may love his wife, but there are now obligations to fulfill. The single life was carefree, but also lonely. They would rather not lose their wife but want a distraction from the pressure that comes with responsibility. They are looking for a quick return to the carefree days with the security of a spouse intact.

Win Early: Stay in the game. Stop the temptation the moment the thought enters your mind, rather than cradling it. When

you find yourself looking for distractions, do the opposite. Embrace your responsibilities or you may lose them.

Sexual Addiction

There are women that have this problem, but mainly men. The exact cause is unknown but can involve both a chemical and/or psychological reason. These men consistently engage in sexual behavior (including viewing porn or participating in chat rooms) that brings negative outcomes. Despite the negative effects in their lives, they do not stop.

Win Early: Get treatment immediately. This can be overcome with pastoral counseling or support groups—perhaps both.

Sound Off: How do you remain faithful to your wife?

Huddle up with your wife and ask, “How can we avoid these pitfalls?”

Coming Tuesday: Why Do Women Cheat?

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