



Modesty

I'm curious about Modesty. Great! You have the right piece of paper in your hands. We've have taken the time to put this together so you can understand what God thinks about this topic. You'll also have a chance to dig into the Bible for yourself!

Understanding Modesty

What do we mean by modesty exactly? Well, modesty is mostly geared toward covering yourself with the appropriate amount of clothing. The standards at which the world defines modest or appropriate can be drastically different than God's standards.

The main desire that all people be modest stems from the every present sin of lust. Lust is looking at another person (male or female) that is not your spouse and sexually desiring them. Not only does the lustful person have responsibility, but scripture teaches that each of us have a responsibility as to how we present ourselves.

For The Girls

First, let us say that modesty is not just for you. Guys should be modest, but we chose to start with girls because that's the polite thing to do (Ladies First).

You do not need to trade fashionable for modesty (though if the choice was necessary we would suggest modesty due to the eternal impact rather than a trend). Clothing that is modest may not be as readily available, but it is available.

Try to avoid wearing anything that brings an overt attention to your body rather than to your whole self. God created you in his image and by bringing too much attention to your physical beauty, you may lose out on someone seeing the spiritual beauty that you possess as well.

As a side note, lust is not an issue that only guys deal with. Sexual fantasy towards a guy is as dishonorable toward God as sexual fantasy towards a girl is.

For The Boys

Modesty is not a girl only issue. The same standards that God places on females is true for males. Bringing any overt attention to your physical body may take away from your ability to come across as sincere when sharing your complete satisfaction in Jesus Christ. It could hurt your testimony as well as distract others from their pursuit of God.

While being in public without a shirt on is more acceptable for guys, we encourage you to consider that just because it is a cultural norm, it does not mean that God approves.

For Everyone

The main point is for everyone to think not only of themselves, but of others also. Choosing comfort over obedience to God is not something to play around with.

As we have stated earlier, there are cultural standards and fashion trends that are popular but should not be held by people who wish to point others to Jesus, not themselves. It may mean missing out on what is considered popular, but we know that we strive for something much greater than what this world can offer.

At CSM

When CSM does anything involving water, we ask that EVERYONE wear a dark t-shirt and shorts. Our goal is not to focus on one another's looks, but to set our eyes to Jesus and point others to him as well. Thank you for following this guideline.

Possible Dress to Avoid (not an exhaustive list):

- See-Through Clothing
- Tight/Form Fitting Clothing
- Low Necklines
- Overly Tight & Short Shorts
- Cut and Torn Clothing

Going Deeper

Read and reflect on 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, 1 Peter 3:3-4, and Romans 14:13 as you think about God's views towards modest dress.