P-R-O-M

Ponder: What about the Prom?

Scripture: "For the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication uncleanness, lewdness . . ." (Galatians 5:19 NKJV).

Spring is here, and with spring comes the Prom. Let's re-visit the question of dancing, using "PROM" as an acronym:

P: Popularity. God created us as social beings. We desire the company and approval of our peers. Popularity isn't wrong, but when you sacrifice God's principles to obtain it, then popularity has become your god. Christians have long been ridiculed for avoiding worldly activities (1 Peter 4:4). But is dancing really worldly? Or may Christians engage in it? Continue reading . . .

R: Recreation. "Girls just wanna have fun." Yeah, so do boys. God is not anti-fun; neither should you make fun your god ("whose god is their belly" [Philippians 3:19] – not stomach, but belly, considered to be the seat of all the fleshly appetites). Right and wrong are not determined by whether an activity is fun. Good things can be fun, but anyone knows that doing things you shouldn't can be quite fun! Many find dancing fun. But is it right or wrong? Read on . . .

O: Offense. "Woe to the world because of offenses (occasions of stumbling)! . . . Woe to that man by whom offense comes" (Matthew 18:7). Your behavior affects others, for good or ill. Aside from the vulgar lyrics in most dance music, dancing itself involves close bodily contact and suggestive movements. These put a stumbling block before dancers and observers. Would Jesus do this?

M: Modesty. Be honest – dancing's appeal is sexual. How many boys dance with other boys, or girls with girls? What would people say if they did? Far from the modesty commended by God's word, the suggestive movements and close bodily contact of dancing make it a "work of the flesh" ("lewdness," Galatians 5:19). Are you willing to put a stumbling block in others' way, and set aside God's warnings about the works of the flesh, just to be popular and have fun?

Parents, grandparents, and young people: Are you listening?