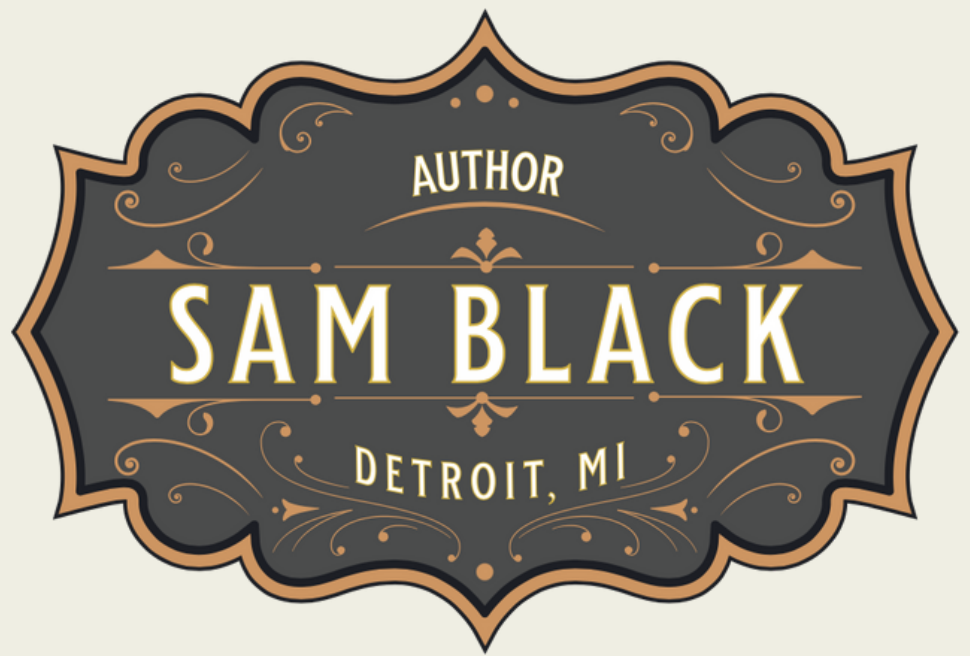




Sam Black is a renowned author and expert in the field of pornography recovery. As the Director of Recovery Education at [Covenant Eyes](#), he brings a wealth of experience to his work, having joined the organization in 2007 after a distinguished 18-year career as an award-winning journalist. Sam is the author of two groundbreaking books: "*The Healing Church: What Churches Get Wrong About Pornography and How to Fix It*" and "*The Porn Circuit: Understand Your Brain and Break Porn Habits*." He has also edited 16 other books on the impact of pornography and regularly speaks at parenting, leadership and men's events across the country. Sam's deep knowledge and compassionate approach have helped countless individuals and families find healing and hope.

EXPERTISE

- Pornography addiction recovery
- Sexual brokenness
- Parenting, family online protection
- Mentor relationships in recovery
- Neurological effects of pornography
- Understanding shame

AVAILABILITY

- Widely available, Mon-Fri and at select times Sat, Sun.
- Eastern time (Detroit, MI)
- Available via Skype, Zoom, phone and to travel upon request

ONLINE (CLICK TO VISIT)



[Click to listen.](#) World-class guests provide practical, relevant and biblical perspectives on pornography, addiction recovery, sexual brokenness, betrayal trauma, parenting, marriage restoration, counseling, and more.



CREDENTIALS

- Sixteen years at Covenant Eyes
- Has spoken across the country and with thousands of people about how pornography has impacted their lives
- Travels across United States and Canada attending conferences, seminars and training on pornography and sex addiction and recovery, as well as events addressing sex trafficking and exploitation
- Spent 18 years as a journalist
- Author of multiple books on the topic of pornography addiction and recovery. To view Sam's other work, [click here](#).

"If you're looking for a book that heaps shame on the porn struggler, look elsewhere. The Healing Church soberly assesses ... and offers practical help. I urgently recommend this book."

— Max Lucado



MEDIA

Watch Sam discuss porn and his new book on both the 'Relatable' podcast with Allie Beth Stuckey and 'Behind the Mike' podcast with Mike Stone. Just click on the clips below.



How Porn Changes the Brain, Kills Intimacy & Harms Society



Is Porn Morally Acceptable?

TO BOOK AN INTERVIEW, CONTACT:

JASON JONES 512.720.2996

[JASON@JONESLITERARY.COM](mailto:jason@jonesliterary.com)



ABOUT THE BOOK

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- Date: May 16, 2023
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- ISBN-10 : 1636980252
- ISBN-13 : 978-1636980256



THE HEALING CHURCH: WHAT CHURCHES GET WRONG ABOUT PORNOGRAPHY AND HOW TO FIX IT

Pornography undermines the ministries of the local church. The best efforts for children's, teen, adult and marriage ministries lose traction due to the secret impact of pornography. Studies show porn use directly correlates to reduced church attendance and volunteerism, diminished feelings of closeness to God, and increased religious doubts. But what if the local church became a beacon of hope where people and their leaders are equipped to experience true healing and lasting freedom? As a former journalist and current Director of Recovery Education for Covenant Eyes, Sam Black provides an empathetic primer for leaders to help them understand how people become trapped. And, Sam shows how churches and their leaders are creating safe places with safe processes where it's okay for people, even Christians, to come as they are...but not stay as they are.

WHY IS IT RELEVANT?

- Two-thirds of men and a third of women who attend church regularly say they struggle with pornography. Yet **only 7% of churches offer specific resources and support to their congregations.**
- Church leaders know that a large percentage of their congregations secretly struggle with porn, but are unsure how to help. Strugglers who do break free many times say their local church didn't help.
- **More than one-third of men attending church are locked in a continuous struggle with pornography.**
- Among younger Christian men, **36% say they use porn daily.**
- Church attendance and prayer activity decline significantly when porn is used.
- It's not just a problem with men. One study showed that **73% of women** (mainly between the ages of 18 and 35) have used porn in the last six months and 26% in the last week.
- Porn isn't what it used to be. **Fifty-two percent (52%) of teens have been exposed to violent pornography.** This includes acts such as choking, slapping, gagging, hitting and crying.
- Those who lead and teach us and our kids are struggling, too. **21% of youth pastors and 14% of pastors admit they currently struggle with porn use.**
- Porn is destroying families, marriages and ministries at exponentially increasing levels.

WHAT IT IS ... AND IS NOT

- *'The Healing Church'* is a primer for church leaders on pornography strongholds.
- It is personal and practical, wide-ranging yet focused, reverent but fearless.
- It is **not** a purity sermon, not the same old "Don't do it...God hates that... Jesus is watching you" type of message.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

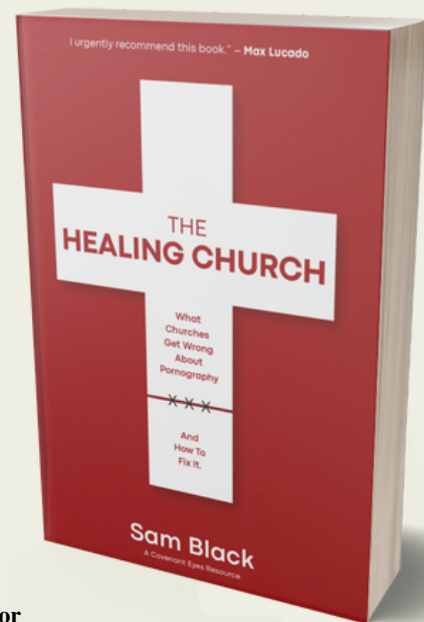
- How do men get stuck? What about women?
- What is porn's impact on ministry?
- How many ministry leaders struggle with porn? What is their path to recovery? How should we respond when a pastor or church leader reveals a struggle with porn?
- Where does the church go wrong in addressing (or ignoring) porn, what are the consequences and how can church leaders change?
- How do men unknowingly wire their brains for ongoing porn use?
- What is 'neuroplasticity' and what does it have to do with addiction?
- Can you explain the science that makes pornography such a difficult addiction to break? And what ongoing use of porn does to the brain?
- Why is 'the purity sermon' ineffective and why do so many church leaders still believe the occasional sermon is enough to inoculate their congregants against sexual sin?
- Can you explain the relationship between wounds, triggers, rituals and toxic shame?
- What are the keys to killing shame?
- Why are safety and grace so hard to find in church and how does that fuel the porn epidemic?
- What are the most common lies men and women tell themselves and others regarding porn use?
- What are the most important steps in seeking accountability, support?
- What pastors aren't taught in seminary about porn
- Why the wrong response from the church is so damaging
- Why more sex doesn't save a marriage or solve the problem
- What does spiritual abuse look like when porn users seek help?
- Is abstinence the answer?
- Seeking help: What helps to hear? What hurts?
- How to pick the right allies

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JASON@JONESLITERARY.COM

ENDORSEMENTS



"In *'The Healing Church'*, Sam Black challenges churches to take vital steps in growing their understanding of the effects of pornography addiction, its impact on the pews and a roadmap to help people find tangible hope and true healing. He and the team at Covenant Eyes are leading the way."

—Tim Clinton, Ed.D., President of the American Association of Christian Counselors, co-host at Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk and Executive Director at the Liberty University Global Center for Mental Health, Addiction and Recovery

"If you are looking for a book that heaps shame upon the porn struggler, look elsewhere. If, on the other hand, you're looking for a book that soberly assesses the porn pandemic and then offers practical help, you've got the right volume. Porn is contaminating our generation. Yet, empowered by the grace of God and the careful counsel of people like Sam, there is hope. I urgently recommend *'The Healing Church'*."

—Max Lucado, bestselling author, speaker and pastor at Oak Hills Church

"Thank God for this ultra-practical book by Sam Black—fresh, honest, relevant—a 'how to' book packed with wisdom to help us help others."

—June Hunt, Chief Servant Leader, Hope for the Heart

"Pastors and church leaders have the God-given and unique privilege to speak into the intimate and painful areas of sexual sin and shame in congregants' lives. This sacred touchpoint must not only be handled with genuine care, but with a sensitivity and competency that avoids causing further harm. *'The Healing Church'* helps us be a healing rather than harming church."

—Jeremy F. Keeton, M.MFT, LMFT, Senior Director of Counseling Services at Focus on the Family

"There is a lot of hand-wringing these days when the subject of pornography comes up, and understandably so. Social mores are crumbling all around us. Sexual exploitation is rampant, and families are buckling and breaking under the corrosive influence of porn. The situation is dire, to be sure, but it is also pregnant with possibilities. For many years I have been waiting and praying for someone—someone with more credibility than I—to awaken the church to the phenomenal opportunities presented by the porn pandemic. Sam Black's newest book, *'The Healing Church'*, is the one we've been waiting for. More than an exercise in biblical theology or abstract theory, it is personal and practical, wide-ranging yet focused, reverent but fearless. Sam does not mince words in describing the nature and scope of the challenge, but he is not discouraged. With example after real-life example, he shows how a new generation of Christian leaders and porn survivors is bringing the healing power of the Gospel to a lonely, desperate world."

—Nate Larkin, founder of the Samson Society

"Every church is in a war with porn; the problem is many aren't aware to what degree, who the casualties are, and how to go on the offensive. To that end, Sam Black wrote *'The Healing Church'* on winning the war against porn. Pastors, leaders, and strugglers alike will find this eye-opening with new statistics, heart-gripping with stories of change, and potent with a curated arsenal of practical next steps and resources for victory over this epidemic enemy. This should be standard issue for every pastor and para-church leader."

—John Elmore, Teaching Pastor of Watermark Community Church in Dallas, TX, author of *Freedom Starts Today: Overcoming Struggles and Addictions One Day at a Time*

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"*'The Healing Church'* breaks up powerful myths that have kept churches from ministering effectively to men and women trapped in an addictive cycle. Sam has done his research and presents a bio-psycho-social and spiritual viewpoint on how to minister to those suffering with unwanted sexual behaviors around pornography. *'The Healing Church'* understands that healing and growth are a process not separate from discipleship. Sam Black has proved something fresh for those looking for answers to a critical discipleship issue."

—**Jack West, Pastor of Care & Recovery at Mariners Church**

"As a former pornography addict and a person who helps men and women defeated by pornography, *'The Healing Church'* is a Godsend! For those being defeated by pornography, it's a compassionate and healing tool to get you unstuck so you can experience freedom from porn. It's an incredible, biblical, comprehensive, sensitive resource that pastors **MUST** read and implement in their churches."

—**Dr. Clarence Shuler, President/CEO of BLR: Building Lasting Relationships and author of Finding Hope in a Dark Place**

"In *'The Healing Church'*, Sam Black addresses the issue head-on, offering great insight as to why porn is so very addictive, without heaping condemnation on the struggle. Instead, he offers grace, solutions, and resources to confront the problem. I highly recommend *'The Healing Church'*. Sam has years of experience working with this population and it shows clearly in his writing."

—**Ron Cook, President of Care for Pastors**

"Many pastors and church leaders who truly want to see the gospel of Christ transform people's lives are living under a fog of ignorance and fear when it comes to the issue of porn and other forms of sexual sin. *'The Healing Church'* is a well-researched, yet accessible resource that lifts the fog and provides wise guidance and practical ideas to empower leaders to effectively minister to anyone who wants freedom from porn and its toxic influence. I recommend that every church make this book available in their library."

—**Jonathan Daugherty, Founder of Be Broken Ministries**

"Sam Black is a trusted expert and a man who understands the complex issues involved with sexual struggles and sin. *'The Healing Church'* provides the background and blueprint—with solid research and proven strategies—for you and your church to bring men to healing and restoration. If you are engaged in discipleship, you will run into this issue. This book will help you provide a biblical and practical response."

—**Brett Clemmer, President & CEO of Man in the Mirror, co-author of No Man Left Behind**

"*'The Healing Church'* is a powerful field guide for churches to address the issue of pornography extensively and with grace. From the beginning pages, it is clear that Sam's heart is for true healing to take place not on platforms and stages, but in the day-to-day life of the local church community. He speaks from years of experience in this field to discuss the draw of pornography, the deadliness of shame, and how these things can sicken Christian marriages and ministry. This is a powerful toolkit for churches to minister to and care for people. It is filled with stories of life change and practical tools for how we, as a church, can disinfect from shame and become a place where true healing and growth can occur."

—**Jessica Harris, author of Beggar's Daughter, blogger, and speaker**

"This invaluable resource for pastors and church leaders cuts to the heart of the matter, offering compassionate insight and practical direction for those shepherding God's people toward freedom and growth."

—**Troy Haas, CEO HopeQuest Ministry Group, Christian counselor**

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ENDORSEMENTS



"For far too long the church has been largely ineffectual about the plague of pornography infecting the men and women in their congregations. People are being injured by pornography and are in need of the kind of hope the church is uniquely positioned to provide. Whether it is a combination of fear, apathy, or lack of understanding about addiction, the passivity cannot continue. With his book, *'The Healing Church'*, Sam Black has provided a grace-filled and research-rich resource to equip, educate and empower the church to not just talk about porn, but to provide hope and healing to those who struggle. Having known Sam personally and professionally for over a decade, I have seen his heart for those who struggle with porn and his heart for the church. *'The Healing Church'* is the beautiful culmination of his years of advocacy that all church leaders should read."

—Crystal Renaud Day, Christian counselor, author, and founder of SheRecovery.com

"As someone who served for over a decade in full-time pastoral leadership and now in recovery ministry, I have felt first-hand the divide that can exist between the church and recovery. In this excellent resource, Sam Black lays the foundation for a connecting bridge between the two. The church can be a safe place with a successful process to lead men and women to hope, healing and freedom in their sexuality. With the skill of a seasoned journalist, Black pulls expertise from the very best of ministries, resources and research in this area. The data he reports will open your eyes to the true challenge we face over this issue, but the strategies he outlines can lead you and your church to true and lasting change. I highly recommend *'The Healing Church'* for any leader who is ready to stop simply talking about the problem and wants to move toward a culture of transformation in their church. Through the Gospel of Christ, we have all the answers we need to end the porn pandemic in the church. Sam Black shows us how to apply these answers in effective, life-changing ways."

—Nick Stumbo, Executive Director of Pure Desire Ministries

"I thank God for Sam and Covenant Eyes. I wholeheartedly agree with his passion to bring men through 'a grace-filled process to the foot of the cross, where strongholds are crushed and where stronger servants arise.' *'The Healing Church'* is a terrific resource for you toward that end."

—Brian Doyle, Founder and President, Iron Sharpens Iron

"People you never anticipate would struggle are struggling. Fighting with sin and losing the battle. They don't feel safe in asking for help, so they continue to try harder on their own, thinking the next day will be different. They're afraid of rejection, so they become comfortable with plastic smiles and rehearsed religious words. But, if you peel back the layers, they're deeply afraid. Because, though we preach grace in our churches, most of our church members have not seen grace in action—especially for sexual sin. And they know it. Which leads to a very hard question: Do most churches *really* create an atmosphere where we can confess our sins to one another and pray for one another so that we may be healed, as the book of James (James 5:16) directs us?"

