

TALKING TO KIDS ABOUT PORNOGRAPHY

A simple, faith-centered guide for
parents of children **aged 8 - 10**



Why it matters

Having this conversation matters more than most parents realize. Children today are exposed to more than any previous generation, often without warning. Many encounters with inappropriate content happen accidentally. When children are not prepared, they are left to make sense of confusing feelings on their own.

As parents, God has entrusted us with our children's hearts, minds, and bodies. By talking with your child ahead of time, you are giving them something powerful: language, protection, and a clear path back to you.

You are helping your child understand that when something feels confusing or uncomfortable, they are not alone and they never have to carry it by themselves.

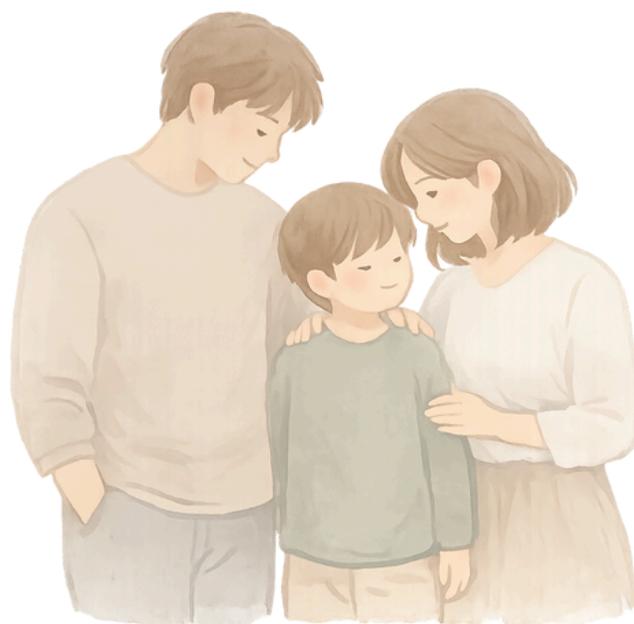
This proactive step builds trust now, long before it is needed.

This guide is designed to help parents explain pornography in a way that:

- Keeps communication open

- Protects a child's emotional and brain development

- Honors the body as something created and cared for by God



You don't need the perfect words.
Calm, steady, and simple is best.



How to start the conversation:

- “As kids get older, they sometimes see pictures or videos online that show people’s bodies in ways that aren’t meant for kids. Those kinds of images are called pornography. They can show up by accident, even when you’re not looking for them.”
- “God made your body, and He wants you to be happy and safe. Because your brain is still growing, some pictures can feel confusing or overwhelming. That’s why I want you to come tell me right away if you ever see something like that.”
- “You will never get in trouble for telling me. Even if you feel embarrassed, you can always talk to me.”

Pause. Let your child respond if they want.
Silence is okay.

A Gentle Way to Explain Real-World Situations

Some families prefer language that stays rooted in privacy and respect, rather than descriptions. This approach works especially well for ages 8–10 and helps children understand boundaries without feeling alarmed or ashamed.

Explaining what Pornography Might Look Like (Kid-Appropriate)

You might say:

- “In our family, we believe our bodies are created by God and are meant to be treated with respect. We keep our private parts private. We don’t show them to others, and we don’t look at other people’s private parts. Sometimes on the internet, there are pictures or videos that don’t follow that rule. Those pictures aren’t for kids.”

Children do better when they understand why. (Not “because I said so.”)

You might say:

- “Our bodies are sacred because God made them. We protect sacred things. Looking at private parts can feel confusing for growing brains, which is why we try to keep you safe.”

This frames protection as care, not fear.

How It Might Feel (Normalizing Without Details)

Instead of describing images, describe feelings.

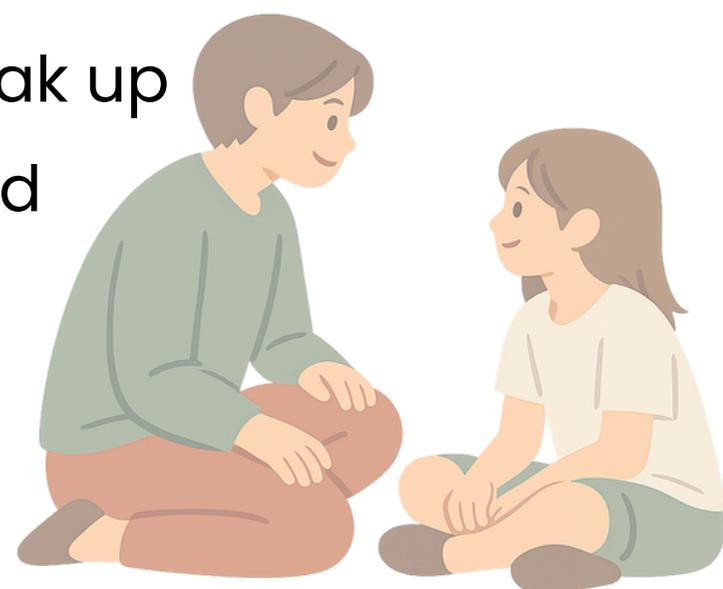
You can say:

- “If you ever see something like that, you might feel uncomfortable, confused, or like you want to look away but can’t. Some kids feel embarrassed or unsure what to do. All of those feelings are normal.”

This helps children trust their internal signals.

Explain what their body might feel

- A tight feeling in your chest or stomach
- A twisty, fluttery, or heavy feeling in your belly
- Your body feels tense or stiff
- A hot or flushed feeling in your face or body
- Feeling restless, shaky, or like you can’t sit still
- Your heart is beating faster than normal
- Feeling frozen, quiet, or unable to speak up
- Feeling confused, unsure, or distracted



What to do if it happens (For Your Child)

Children need very clear, simple steps they can remember, even if they feel surprised or uncomfortable.

You can practice this together:

1. Look away or close the screen as soon as you can
2. Put the device down (or turn it over)
3. Come tell a parent or trusted adult right away

You can say:

“If something breaks the private parts rule, you don’t need to fix it or figure it out by yourself. You just come get me.”

Reassure them:

“You don’t have to explain details. Saying ‘I saw something that wasn’t for kids’ is enough.”

This keeps the responsibility on the adult – where it belongs

What to do if it happens (For parents)

How you respond matters more than what your child sees.

In the moment:

- Stay calm – your reaction sets the tone
- Thank your child for telling you
- Avoid asking for details unless necessary



You might say:

“Thank you for telling me. You’re not in trouble. I’m really glad you came to me.”

What to Emphasize (Over and Over).

These messages matter more than any single conversation:

- “You are safe talking to me”
- “Accidents happen”
- “Curiosity does not mean trouble”
- “Shame is not part of our family”
- “God’s love does not disappear when mistakes happen”



Repeat often:

“You will never get in trouble for telling me the truth.”

You can also emphasize:

- “God made your body, and it is good.”
- “Your body deserves respect and care.”
- “When something feels confusing or uncomfortable, that’s a signal to ask for help.”
- “God gives children adults to help protect and guide them.”
- “God cares about your heart and your body, and so do I.”

Privacy-based boundaries honor God’s design for our bodies.

Remember: this conversation is successful if your child walks away knowing:

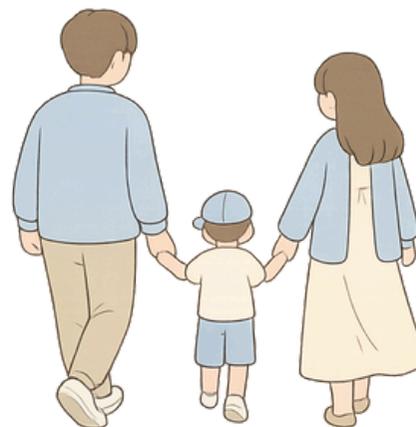
- They are deeply loved
- Their body is respected
- God’s care and your care go together
- They are never alone

Key Takeaways for parents

This conversation is not about saying everything perfectly or covering every possible scenario. It is about **establishing safety, clarity, and trust** before your child ever needs it.

For children ages 8–10, preparation works best when it is:

- Simple, not detailed
- Calm, not emotional
- Clear, not vague
- Protective, not fear-based



Your child does not need explicit explanations to be protected. They need language, boundaries, and a parent who reflects God's love & care.

Key Takeaways for children

Through this conversation, your child should walk away knowing:

- My body was made by God and is good.
- My private parts are protected and respected
- Some things online are not meant for me to see
- Feeling confused or uncomfortable means I should ask for help
- I will never be in trouble for telling the truth
- My parents are a safe place

When children know these things, they are far more likely to come to you, not hide.

Final Encouragement

God chose you to be your child's parent. He knew your heart and your love were exactly what your child needed.

Having this conversation, even imperfectly, is so important. It's a way of protecting the child God entrusted to you.

Many children encounter confusing or inappropriate content without ever having a trusted adult explain safety, boundaries, or next steps. By showing up now, you are offering your child something powerful: a safe place rooted in love, grace, and connection.

When you speak calmly and honestly, you reflect God's care to your child. You teach them that their body is sacred, their feelings matter, and truth is always met with compassion.

This is the beginning of a relationship built on trust that grows as your child grows. A relationship where your child knows they can return to you again and again, just as you both can return to God.