

Fig Leaf Forum recognizes the role of Christian nudists and naturists as "salt and light" within the larger social nudist/naturist community. It encourages readers to uphold and preserve high moral values within social nudist environments and, whenever appropriate opportunities present themselves, to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with fellow naturists willing to receive it.

Mission, Vision And Values

Mission. Fig Leaf Forum's mission is to provide fellowship, edification and encouragement to Bible-believing Christian nudists and naturists.

Vision. Fig Leaf Forum's vision is to see simple voluntary nakedness *reverenced* as a God-created reflection of His image and likeness, and to see such nakedness *redeemed* from disparagement, abuse and exploitation.

Values. Fig Leaf Forum encourages and promotes nudist conduct of the highest moral character. Four ideals are regularly advanced as a minimal basis for Christian nudist behavior: *reverence* for God and for the human body, the pinnacle of God's creation; *chastity* in motivation and deed; *responsibility* to our Lord and to our fellow man; and *consideration* for the sensibilities of those who do not share our views about modest nakedness.

History

Fig Leaf Forum's main newsletter debuted as a printed publication when Issue One was mailed in November, 1994 (more than 130 issues have been published to date). Fig Leaf Forum's fellowship service began in May, 1995. An e-mail edition of the main newsletter was added in July, 1996. Fig Leaf Forum's Web site was launched in April, 1999. An e-mail publication now called Fig Leaf Forum EXTRA debuted in November, 2005.

Description

Fig Leaf Forum is one of the best sources available for information and opinion about Christian involvement in social nudism/naturism. Subscribers have always been encouraged to

actively participate in Fig Leaf Forum's written-word fellowship by submitting material for publication. Over the years a steadily growing readership has contributed a wide variety of informative and thought-provoking articles, testimonies of faith, accounts of interesting experiences, fiction, poetry, letters to the editor and more. Along with original material written by subscribers, excerpts of interest to Christian nudists from books, magazines and newspapers are occasionally featured.

Fellowship Facilitated

Subscribers are offered a service called Fig Leaf Forum Contact. Its intended purpose is to facilitate Christian fellowship among eligible readers. Subscriber-to-subscriber invitations for contact are exchanged after reviewing Personal and Group Profiles posted on Fig Leaf Forum's Web site. Hundreds have used this service in their efforts to locate other Christian nudists.

An Invitation To Subscribe

As you can see, there are many good reasons to become a Fig Leaf Forum subscriber. You'll find things in this newsletter that you're not likely to find anywhere else. If you feel God leading you to learn more about this wholesome and healthy lifestyle, or if you've already answered the call and are an active Christian nudist/naturist, please consider subscribing today.

The Fig Leaf Forum Logo

The fig leaf in Fig Leaf Forum's logo does not represent all clothing. It's a common misconception that social nudists are somehow "against" clothes. They're not. Nudists have a maxim which states, "Unclothed when possible, clothed when practical." Clothing intended for physical protection and other practical purposes was — and is — a gift from God. Clothing intended only to conceal the body because of misplaced shame or fear, on the other hand, directly corresponds to the fig leaves of Adam and Eve, who willfully and sinfully covered the nakedness which God Himself had created and declared "very good."

The Good News

As a Christian nudist, I declare that I am not ashamed of my nakedness. My body is the good creation of God, made in His image and likeness. More importantly, I declare that . . .

"I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes" (Romans 1.16, NIV throughout).

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3.23).

"The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6.23).

"By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. . . . For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures" (1 Corinthians 15.2-4).

"If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10.9).

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3.16).

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The Bible, Nakedness And The Christian Nudist

The Bible never describes human nakedness as being *inherently* shameful or *inherently* sinful.

1. Mankind was created "in the image of God" (Genesis 1.27), "naked and unashamed" (Genesis 2.25).
2. After they sinned, mankind covered themselves out of fear, not shame (Genesis 3.10). God mercifully clothed mankind out of physical necessity, not moral necessity (Genesis 3.17-19, 23-24).
3. Except where forbidden in formal worship by specific religious or cultural conventions (examples: Exodus 20.26, 28.42-43, 1 Corinthians 11.5-6), there are no Biblical prohibitions of nakedness.
4. Wherever shame is associated with nakedness in the Bible, it is: a. shame due to sinful conduct found in conjunction with nakedness (examples: Genesis 9.20-25, Jeremiah 13.26, Ezekiel 23.29-30, Nahum 3.5-6, Habakkuk 2.15-16); b. shame due to status as vanquished people (examples: Isaiah 20.4, 47.3, Micah 1.11); c. figuratively, shame due to spiritual deficiency (examples: Revelation 3.17-18, 16.15).
5. The act of "clothing the naked" spoken about in both the Old and New Testaments refers to the provision of physical needs, not moral needs (examples: Isaiah 58.7, Ezekiel 18.7, 18.16, Job 31.19, Matthew 25.36-43, James 2.15-16).
6. Though physical clothing is regarded as a moral necessity in our worldly society, such is not taught by the Bible. By contrast, the Bible teaches the *ineffectuality* of external prohibitions based on "human commands and teachings" in controlling sinful desires (Colossians 2.20-23). It instructs the redeemed to "clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 13.14, Galatians 3.26-27). Holy conduct results from the internal work of the Holy Spirit, not external rules (John 14.16-17, Galatians 5.22-24, Hebrews 8.10).

Christians who choose to be naked in the presence of others must do so appropriately.

1. Their motives must be pure (1 Chronicles 28.9, Proverbs 16.2, 21.2, Hebrews 4.12-13).
2. Their activities must be honorable and glorifying to God (1 Corinthians 6.19-20, 10.31, 1 Thessalonians 4.3-7); loving and respectful of others (Romans 14.12-15.1, 1 Corinthians 8.9); and legal (Romans 13.1-7, 1 Peter 2.11-16).

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Fig Leaf Forum

Fig Leaf Forum provides fellowship, edification and encouragement to Bible-believing Christian nudists and naturists through its publishing ministry, fellowship service and Web site. Fig Leaf Forum is non-denominational, non-political and is not operated for profit. Its publications are conservative in nature and intended for serious-minded Christians who wish to be part of a serious dialogue about Christian nudism/naturism and related topics. In print since 1994, Fig Leaf Forum's main newsletter has grown to be Christian nudism's largest postal-mail/e-mail periodical.

Legitimate, family-oriented social nudism/naturism has always been non-sexual in both philosophy and practice. Fig Leaf Forum affirms and upholds that tradition along with the ideals of traditional Christian marriage (that is, one woman and one man for one lifetime) and traditional Christian sexual morality (that is, sex only between husband and wife within the privacy of marriage, which excludes all premarital or extramarital sexual activity). Fig Leaf Forum takes an unequivocal stand against pornography and other sexualized nakedness in the media.