Doctrine of Fornication

1. *Fornication* or *porneia* includes many forms of illicit sexual intercourse.

2. In Romans *porneia* is seen as sexual sins in general,
   - Romans 1:29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,

3. In Corinthians *porneia* refers to sex with incest.
   - 1 Corinthians 5:1 It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife.

4. Also in Corinthians *porneia* refers to the sexual lewdness of mental and social behavior resulting from forced marital abstinence.
   - 1 Corinthians 7:5 Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.

5. It is associated with uncleanness and lasciviousness.
   - 1 Corinthians 6:13 Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body.

6. In Galatians *porneia* is associated with the works of the flesh.
   - Galatians 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

7. *Porneia* brings divine judgment.
   - Revelation 2:21 And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. 22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.

8. Because of the broader usage of the word *porneia*, a better translation of fornication in the gospels would be sexual impurity or sexual indecency. *Porneia* should not be limited to the idea of sexual intercourse outside of the bonds of marriage by two unmarried people.