

[SERMON NOTES]

Conquering “RISK” – Lust (*Matthew 5:27-30, 2 Samuel 11, Psalm 51:1-2, 10-13*)

Lust is the _____ of misplaced _____.

To conquer _____, Jesus must conquer _____!

What you _____, _____.

What you _____, and what you _____ it with, becomes what you _____.

[QUICK REVIEW]

Looking at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

[MY STORY]

Some of the most powerful moments in our lives are the times when something that we have wanted or dreamed about for a long time finally happens—whether it is getting married, having a kid, getting that job you always wanted, etc. ***Tell the story of a time when something you’ve most longed for in life finally came to pass in your life.***

[DIGGING DEEPER]

It is not uncommon to hear that humans are “thinking” or “feeling” creatures—that we are primarily influenced by our thoughts and emotions. However, it is closer to the truth that we are “desiring” creatures—people who are most fundamentally driven by our desires and dreams and passions—whether good or bad—that are *underneath* our thoughts and feelings. Another way of saying this is that we are driven by whatever we love. ***What are some of your deepest and strongest desires, dreams, and passions—the things that most drive you in your life?***

Lust is fundamentally our desires and passions when they are misplaced and misdirected. Underneath most sin is a disordered desire or passion. **Read James 1:13-15. Describe the progression of how a disordered desire plays out in someone's life. How have you seen this process play out in your life or the life of someone you know?**

Read 1 John 2:16. This verse describes *three* primary ways that disordered desire can be directed: 1) The lust of the flesh (worldly pursuits and comforts) 2) the lust of the eyes (beauty/image), and 3) the pride of life (possessions). **Which category is most tempting for you to focus your desire on? What good and Godly desire do you think may be buried underneath that disordered desire?**

The sermon this week talked about how the most common form of lust usually takes the form of misplaced sexual desire. Our sexuality is one of the greatest gifts that God has given to humanity, and is therefore the most destructive when distorted. **Read the following passages about how we should deal with lust as followers of Jesus.**

1 Corinthians 6:18 Colossians 3:5 2 Timothy 2:22 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5

What are some of the consistent ways in which we are to approach or deal with the sin of lust? What are some of the other common sins that are often paired alongside lust?

Lustful sexual desire inherently distorts and destroys relationships to others in our lives, especially our spouses, families, and the opposite sex. They foster objectification and create distance from other fellow image-bearers of God. Because of this, Christ-centered community is one of the greatest antidotes to the sin of lust. **What are the aspects of Biblical community that are the greatest allies in countering and conquering the sin of lust?**

At the end of the message, we learned: "What you starve, dies, and what you feed—and what you feed it with—becomes what you crave." **What are some of the things that we should be "feeding" ourselves with in order to crave the things of Christ and not the desires of the flesh?**

[WEEKLY READINGS]

Studies say that someone who reads their Bible 4 times or more a week improves their joy, happiness, contentment, and overall approval of their life. (1 Tim. 4:8-10, 16; 2 Tim. 3:16-17). As a church, we believe that! Below are 4 passages of Scripture this week to dive into to pull deeper on our weekend's message. We encourage you to take notes in your Bible, and ask yourself: *What does this teach me about God? Myself and others? And how do I follow Jesus better?*

1 John 2:1-17

Proverbs 6:20-35

Psalm 51

Galatians 5