

Getting to the Heart of Purity

Matthew 5:17-20 Applied

Purity must start in the heart!

It requires radical removal of lust.

1. Cut off the opportunity.

If your hand offends you, cut it off!

📖 Do not make any provision. Romans 13:13

📖 Flee sexual immorality. I Corinthians 6:18

Apply: Identify & avoid danger zones.

2. Count the cost of hidden sin.

...it is better than...

The greatest price of immorality is internal...

📖 ...because our sexual and spiritual nature share space.

I Cor. 6:18; 2 Cor. 6:14-16; Eph. 5:31-32; I Peter 2:11

📖 ...because our thoughts drive our emotions & choices.

Apply: Keep a current cost analysis.

3. Practice discipline of your eyes.

...anyone who looks lustfully...

📖 Job's example Job 31

📖 Eve and Achan's example Gen. 3 & Josh. 7

Saw -> desired -> took

Apply: How do you look?

4. Take every thought captive.

...has committed adultery already in his heart...

📖 Recognize the battle zone. 2 Cor. 10:3-5 Rom. 12:1-2

📖 Replace evil thoughts with truth.

Eph. 4:22ff.; Ps. 119:9-11; John 8:32

Apply: Your life follows your thoughts.

Your beliefs determine your behavior.

5. Nourish and enjoy sacred intimacy.

📖 Proverbs 5:15-20 & the SOS

📖 I Corinthians 7

Challenge: Focusing our heart for purity.