



## **THOUGHTS FROM THE MESSAGE - SEXUALITY**

- Read together as a group the passage from 1 Corinthians 6:12 - 7:5 (pgs 128-129)

- 1) Your body isn't yours anymore, it belongs to the body of Christ. "...your bodies are members of Christ himself."
- 2) Your body isn't yours anymore, you were purchased by Jesus. "...you are not your own, you were bought with a price."
- 3) Your body isn't yours anymore, it is the home of the Holy Spirit. "...your bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit."
- 4) Your body isn't yours anymore, it is yielded to your spouse.

- Do you think the order of submission of your body first to Christ, then to the Holy Spirit, then to your spouse, matters? If so, why? What does "your body is not your own," it must be "yielded to your spouse" mean in the Corinthians passage? How can you practically yield?
- If you're single, consider this act of submission... in what ways do you have to yield your sexuality to the Lord? If marriage is in your future, how might yielding be difficult for you?
- The word for sexual immorality is *pornea*, which is where we derive the English words fornication (sex outside of marriage), lust and pornography. Has your commitment been to flee *pornea* in your life? What are ways for you to fight and flee sexual immorality?
- Read ***The Subtle Stages of an Affair*** from Jason's message. Which stages are you most susceptible to?

### **How to fight for an affair-proof marriage:**

1. Keep dating each other regularly. Make time...sacred scheduling.
2. Keep focusing on meeting the other person's needs.
3. Keep being honest about your own unmet desires.
4. Keep saying, "I'm sorry, I was wrong, will you forgive me?"
5. Keep your priorities 1. **God** 2. Soul 3. *Spouse* 4. Kids 5. Everything else
6. Keep sensitive to sin, practicing radical amputation when tempted.
7. Keep surrendering rights, starving egos, serving needs...**sacrifice**.
8. Keep meeting with an accountability partner who asks hard questions
9. Keep following the truth no matter how you feel in the moment. Trust God's truth.

- Which of the above steps do you see lacking or missing in your marriage (If you're single, which of the above do you find to be most compelling to guard against missing)?

"Lust is the craving of salt to the person who is dying of thirst" ~ Frederick Buechner



## **QUESTIONS FROM WEEKDAY READING (pgs 107 - 142)**

### **WEEKLY QUESTIONS:**

1. *What's something you noticed for the first time?*
2. *What questions did you have?*
3. *Was there anything that bothered you?*
4. *What did you learn about loving God?*
5. *What did you learn about loving others?*

### **GOOD LEADERSHIP | 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12**

- After reading the passage from 1 Thessalonians together, identify what Paul, Silas, and Timothy (the authors) did with the Thessalonian church that is worthy of being modeled.
- Look at the list that you've compiled from their lives. Which of these do you most struggle to do as a leader in your home, work, school, or community?

### **IDLE and DISRUPTIVE PEOPLE | 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15**

- Paul uses the words, "idle and disruptive" multiple times in this passage. First, begin to discuss and identify what idle and disruptive behavior looks like for the Thessalonians.
- Where and how do you see idle and disruptive behavior manifest in the church or in our communities today?

### **GIFTS of the SPIRIT | 1 Corinthians 12**

- All of 1 Corinthians 12 is about unity yet diversity. Read 1 Corinthians 12 together, from start to finish.
- Paul wrote that the gifts are given for the "common good." Talk about how each gift can and should be used for the common good of the Church.
- Have you felt inferior because of your particular gifts? How does Paul make a case against comparison and for special and intentional honor for all parts?

"Lust is the craving of salt to the person who is dying of thirst" ~ Frederick Buechner