

"The devil is a liar. No one falls in this area without believing some of the devil's lies. God tells the truth. His word is light, not darkness. The devil may be multiplying his attack on Christians because he has access to modern weapons like, TV, movies, videos, sexual advertising, cable and satellite TV. He serves these stimulants daily in the living rooms of the average Christian, especially those who 'watch TV to unwind.'" Keith Drury

1. MAKE A _____ WITH MY EYES
"¹⁴I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a girl." Job 31:1
(See also Proverbs 6:25-26)

Two ways to control our thought process:

- The first is to say "I will not think about that." (Doesn't work)
- The second is to fill your mind with good and godly thoughts. (Works)
Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Philippians 4:8 (NIV)

Biblical Examples: Samson vs Daniel

- Samson allowed his eyes and mind to think lustful thoughts
(See Judges 13-16)
- Daniel, allowed his eyes and mind to be focused on the Lord and spiritual things. (See Daniel)

2. AVOID THE _____ TYPES OF PEOPLE

¹⁴Wisdom will save you from the ways of wicked men, from men whose words are perverse, ¹⁵who leave the straight paths to walk in dark ways, ¹⁴who delight in doing wrong and rejoice in the perverseness of evil, ¹⁵whose paths are crooked and who are devious in their ways. ¹⁶It will save you also from the adulteress, from the wayward wife with her seductive words, ¹⁷who has left the partner of her youth and ignored the covenant she made before God. ¹⁸For her house leads down to death and her paths to the spirits of the dead. ¹⁹None who go to her return or attain the paths of life."

Proverbs 2:12-19 (NIV)

3. SEE _____ AS JESUS SAW THEM

¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin."

Hebrews 4:15 (NIV)

MY RESPONSE



Living, Loving, Reaching, Growing

WHAT JESUS REQUIRES OF ME
Jesus Calls Me to Let Go of Lust

By Marty Wagantall
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INTRODUCTION

God made sex to continue the human race from generation to generation. He also made it for our pleasure and enjoyment. He made it to be an act that was so intimate, so special, that it is only to be shared between one man and one woman for life. It was not, is not, and never will be God's design or desire for you to have casual or multiple sex partners at any time in your life.

Matthew 5:27-30 (NIV)

²⁷You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' ²⁸But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell."

DO NOT COMMIT (THE SIN OF) _____

Most people even today would say that committing adultery is wrong.

"You shall not commit adultery."

Exodus 20:14

If you have committed adultery or fornication two important steps to take are:

1. Repent of your sin and ask God for forgiveness. (1 John 1:9)
2. Make amends—where possible—to the person you sinned with or against.

DO NOT (COMMIT THE SIN OF)

"But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart." (5:28)

_____ has nothing to do with love.

_____ has nothing to do with love.

Adultery in the _____ leads down the road to _____ adultery.

Lust is the mother of adultery. It is the demonic force that allows human beings to justify exploiting another person sexually, at the same time betraying the most intimate of human commitments where trust ought to be secure and sacred vows honored.

Lust demands possession; love values, respects and seeks to serve other persons with what is genuinely good for them. Lust is always incompatible with acknowledging God as the supreme desire of our hearts, because it is contrary to His will.

In the Old Testament adultery was portrayed as one of the most despicable and heinous of sins, punishable by death (Lev. 20:10; Deut. 22:22). Throughout the NT, prohibitions against sexual immorality are every bit as clear.

¹⁸*"Don't you realize that those who do wrong will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Don't fool yourselves. Those who indulge in sexual sin (NAS: fornicators), or who worship idols, or commit adultery, or are male prostitutes, or practice homosexuality."* 1 Corinthians 6:9 (NLT)

"Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral." Hebrews 13:4 (NIV)

Jesus is speaking of intentional looking with the purpose of lusting. This is the intentional continual dwelling on lustful thoughts, or the intentional selection of a particular location, like a beach, book, magazine, TV program, movie or internet site, or who does any such thing with the expectation and desire of being inappropriately sexually aroused.

The heart is the soil where the seeds of sin are imbedded and begin to grow. "If you think ... adultery, you do not satisfy the sex urge; you pour oil on a fire to quench it." E. Stanley Jones

Just as the adulterous heart plans to expose itself to lust satisfying situations, a godly heart plans to avoid them whenever possible and to flee from them when unavoidable. Just as the adulterous heart panders to itself in advance, so the godly heart protects itself in advance, making a covenant not to go there.

¹⁴*made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a girl."* Job 31:1

Will you make a covenant like that with your eyes? _____

¹²*Run from anything that stimulates youthful lusts. Instead, pursue righteous living, faithfulness, love, and peace. Enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts."* 2 Timothy 2:22 (NLT)

HOW TO PROTECT MYSELF FROM LUST

²⁸*If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.* ³⁰*And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell."*

Aren't you glad for a thing called hyperbole? Jesus is exaggerating to make a point. Anything that leads to lust should be given up. We should regard this sin so seriously as to prefer to lose an eye or a hand rather than to lose (ourselves) in this kind of destructive sin.

4. FULLY _____ MY EYES AND HANDS AND FEET TO THE LORD

¹⁹*put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness."* Romans 6:19 (NIV)

You need more than _____ to do this.

You need the power of _____

¹²*Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it.* ¹³*For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live."* Romans 8:12-13 (NIV)

The phrase Christ uses in Matthew 5:30 "causes you to sin" or makes you stumble or fall [skandalizo /skan-dal-id-zo/], was often used of a snare or a bait stick that springs the trap when an animal touches it. Anything that morally or spiritually traps us, which causes us to stray or fall or get snared into sin, should be eliminated quickly and totally from our lives.

Jesus main point here is that no matter where it ends, sin always begins when an evil thought is sown in the mind and heart.

¹⁴*But each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.* ¹⁵*Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."* James 1:14-15 (NIV)