**Discipling the Heart: 11**

***Yield: Thought Life***

Only a fool sees and keeps .

*A prudent man sees danger and takes refuge,*

*but the simple keep going and suffer for it.*

*Proverbs 22:3 NIV84*

**I want a good life.**

**Satan wants to ruin my life.**

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. NIV84

1 Peter 5:8 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. NIV84

2 Corinthians 2:10-11 If you forgive anyone, I also forgive him. And what I have forgiven — if there was anything to forgive — I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, 11in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes. NIV84

Revelation 2:14 Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: You have people there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed to idols and by committing sexual immorality. NIV84 (See Numbers 22-24)

1 Corinthians 10:8 We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did — and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. NIV84 (See Numbers 25)

**To have a good life I must learn how to control my body in a way that is holy and honorable.**

1 Thessalonians 4:3-6 It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; 4that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, 5not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; 6and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. NIV

**Take ground.** - Confess with brutal honesty.

James 5:16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. NIV84

**Establish a perimeter.** Make no provision for the flesh.

Romans 13:14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. ESV

1 Corinthians 6:18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. NIV84

**Annihilate threats.** Take captive.

Romans 13:14 Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature [/flesh]. NIV84

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**Maintain vigilance.** Stay .

1 Peter 5:8 Be self-controlled and alert . Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. NIV84

**Threats to victory.**

1. Fear of looking \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Naive \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. One more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ syndrome
4. Tendency to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Discipling the Heart: 11**

***Yield: Thought Life***

Last frontier: Thought life – In Philippians Series

Only a fool sees danger and keeps going

Proverbs 22:3 A prudent man sees danger and takes refuge,

but the simple keep going and suffer for it. NIV84

**I want a good life.**

It’s not just “You can’t do this and you can’t do that.”

The Bible says not to be sexually immoral. Don’t commit adultery. Don’t fornicate. Don’t lust. There. We’ve got that covered. But we still struggle with it, right? So, we could look at all the verses that say these things, and they will be in your handout, or we could think about some of the WHYs of the matter to try and align our thinking with God’s. Because God seems to think these sins are a bad idea, and we keep doing them, so it would appear that we don’t agree with God or that we don’t think that there are any consequences for breaking this particular set of rules.

Even now, some are stunted, and content with that.

Some Are walking on a precipice (video of biking on mountain’s razor edge)

All are in danger

It would be foolish to do things that would jeopardize that life.

When we fall sexually, it messes with our good life.

**Satan wants to ruin my life.**

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. NIV84

1 Peter 5:8 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. NIV84

We are not unaware of his schemes

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Numerous examples of people being destroyed by sexual sin.

Those in the news

* Michael Jackson
* Tiger Woods
* Pee Wee Herman
* Bill Clinton
* Subway’s Jarod
* Teachers
* Bruce Jenner
* Bill Cosby
* Catholic priests (Cardinal Bernard Law)

Politicians

In the news in last year

* Blake?

Musicians

Christians

* Ray Boltz
* Ray Stanford – President of Florida Bible College
* Ted Haggard (Co. Springs)
* Josh Duggar
* Steve Bush
* ~12 People I know
  + Guy who ran off with wife’s best friend
  + Pastor who met a girl while he was on a spiritual retreat
  + Guy who helped a lady at work get her car started
  + Leader in his church
  + One of my friend’s dads
  + A former pastor who had an affair with a girl who used to be on one of my small groups – When she was young she had some problems at home and went to live with her youth pastor, who ended up molesting her.
  + Guy and gal who cheated with one another a week after sitting in a sermon like this and thinking that it could never happen to them.
  + Guy raised in Christian home with a kid and pregnant wife at home
  + Woman who felt lonely and unloved and met a guy online who loved her even less than her husband
* RC Sproul Jr
* Doug Philipps of Vision Forum
* Jim Baker
* Jimmy Swaggart
* David
* Samson
* Solomon

I’d be a complete fool to think that I couldn’t do the same sorts of things.

To have a good life I must avoid Satan’s schemes.

Only a fool sees danger and keeps going (Prov. 22:3)

**To have a good life I must learn how to control my body in a way that is holy and honorable.**

1 Thessalonians 4:3-6 It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; 4that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, 5not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; 6and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. NIV

Take ground Confess with brutal honesty (James 5:16)

Establish a perimeter Make no provision for the flesh (Rom. 13:14)

Annihilate threats Take every thought captive (Rom. 13:14)

Maintain vigilance Stay alert (1 Peter 5:8)

James 5:16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. NIV84

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**Threats to victory.**

What is going to stop you from doing these things?

1. **Fear of looking foolish** – Is it better to look good or to be good? Looking good when you are not is like painting over rust. Example of Kath pushing on shower tile
2. **Naive independence.** Thinking you can do it on your own – Even though you may not have ever had success EVER, you think this is it. This sermon is the push you needed.
3. **One more chance syndrome.** Thinking “I’m going to try on my own one more time, then if I fail, I will get help.” Same problem as saying you are going to start a diet tomorrow. There is always one more time.
4. **Tendency to downplay.** Thinking “I’ll straighten up and then get help.” You won’t. You will straighten up enough to think you don’t need help, you won’t get it, and then you will be back in the same spot. Satan is fine with giving you some length on your chain, as long as he’s got you on the chain and can yank you around whenever he wants to.