



Sermon Date 5/3/20

OPENING PRAYER

- Commit your discussion to God.
- Ask Him to reveal Himself through His word.
- Pray for courage to live out our convictions.

*Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever! 1 Chronicles 16:34*

CONSIDERATION – Discussion Starters

- What memories or emotions come to mind when you hear the word 'Pleasure'?
- How can pleasure be an idol that leads us to worship experiences, emotions, appetites?
- Has your desire for pleasure ever caused you pain instead?

In this study we will discover the ways that "Pleasure idols are Desires Deified". God has created us for pleasure but we are constantly tempted to reject God's design & authority in order to make pleasure our god (1 John 2:15-17).

In this resource

1. CONSIDERATION – Discuss key questions of life and faith.
2. CONNECTION – Discover what the Bible says on these issues.
3. COMMITMENT – Map out how you will apply the truth of God's revealed will in the coming week.
4. COMMISSION – Decide to pass on what you have discovered this week through sharing and service.

CONNECTION – Seeking God through the Study of His Word

Read Colossians 3:1-17 together with your group or family.

- What are the things we are told to put to death in this passage?
- The Bible says GOD IS LOVE (1 John 4:8), how is this instruction to put to death idols of pleasure an act of love?
- Verses 9-10 describe putting off the 'old self' & putting on the 'new self, which is being renewed...' What specifically is Paul describing here?
 - o Spiritual realities: Personal Surrender, Salvation, Sanctification
- According to verses 12-14 what is it that enables us to put on compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, patience, forgiveness & love?

Examples

 - Vs. 12 - Our identity as God's chosen ones (holy & beloved)
 - Vs. 13 - God has forgiven you

We were created to desire pleasure, however our desires have been sabotaged by sin. It is crucial, therefore, that we pursue our pleasure in God & according to His design!

- We are told in verse 10 to put on our new self. How is Jesus central to our new desires & pleasures according to verse 10-17?
- How is God directing the desires of our new self in Christ according to Philippians 2:13?

COMMITMENT – Personal Map for Application

What pleasures have you been trying to 'keep hidden' from God or others?

How is God leading you to surrender your desires to Him & trust Him to direct you to what is best?

Read Romans 7 & 8. Then have an honest conversation with God about the war being waged within your desires. Ask Him to win the battle for your affections today (& every day).

COMMISSION – Pass it on through Sharing and Service

The 'new self' we are to put on is who we are when we believe, receive & share the love of God.

Receive the love of God revealed in this study, thank God for His love displayed in Jesus Christ & Share His love in your attitudes & actions toward others this week!