

LASTING HAPPINESS

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JAMES 1:14-17

Introduction

Step #1: When _____ Desires...

Step #2: Encounter a _____ Condition...

Step #3: They Produce _____ Actions...

Step #4: That Lead to _____.

Applications:

(1) Regularly _____ your heart.

(2) _____ your sins - and the sins behind your sins.

(3) Enjoy God's _____.

(4) Utilize _____, _____,
and an _____.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & GROUPS

1. Describe a favorite gift you received as a child. Why was it so special? Read James 1:16, 17. In light of what James says in v.17, what is it that he doesn't want us to be deceived about (v.16)?
2. Read James 1:14. Give some examples of good desires. Give some examples of bad desires. What makes a good desire good, or a bad desire bad?
3. Read Ephesians 5:3; Colossians 3:5; and II Peter 2:14. Why does Paul often couple sexual immorality with greed (i.e. what's the connection)?
4. Read James 1:15. The sermon described a variety of "vulnerable conditions" with which our greedy desires might hook up and conceive sexual sins. Explain how the following conditions might do that: anger; self-pity; fear; exhaustion; boredom; loneliness.
5. Read Galatians 6:7 and explain Paul's metaphor. Apply this metaphor to sexual temptation.
6. Read James 1:15 again. What sorts of "death" might sexual sins lead to?
7. Explain each of the sermon's four applications for walking in sexual wholeness and living the abundant life that Jesus offers us. Go back over these four applications and explain why not following each application will lead to sexual brokenness.

Prayer Prompt: Identify some areas of temptation in your own life. Using the Attributes of God list, spend time praying over those temptations and naming the attribute of God that can be a source of help against each one.