

"Lust"

A difficult sin to define:

It is a craving after or fantasizing about
that which is not ours to have.
It can certainly include more than the sexual
But it certainly does include the sexual
It is not a problem just for men
But it is definitely a problem for men

Questions with no easy answers:

When does a look become lust?
When does a thought turn into a sin?

An unacceptable answer: Rationalizing the deadly

Everyone does it
Nobody can stop it
No one gets hurt

When the sin of lust takes control: sexual addiction

To pornography
To self-centered gratification
To immoral relationships

God's answers to the deadly sin of lust:

Live in the assurance of God's grace
Adopt God's standard for holiness
Be willing to take drastic measures
Substitute the pure for the impure
Submit to God's transforming power
Live in the assurance of God's grace

The prayer of the sincere Christian:

"I need Thee every hour"

2 Samuel 11:1-4

11:1 In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem.

2 One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, 3 and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "Isn't this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" 4 Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (She had purified herself from her uncleanness.) Then she went back home.

Ephesians 5:3-4

3 But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.

Matthew 5:27-30

27 "You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.'
28 But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 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.

Philippians 4:8

8 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.

Romans 12:2

2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

The tradition of the seven deadly sins:

Seven Deadly Vices

Anger
Envy
Gluttony
Pride
Sloth

Greed
Lust

Seven Heavenly Virtues

Patience
Kindness
Temperance
Humility
Diligence

Charity
Chastity



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Matthew 5:27-30

"Lust"

Pastor Philip C. Rogers

**Middletown
Church of the Nazarene
Middletown, Indiana**

Vote for your most "deadly" sin

Which "deadly sin" do you most need to overcome?

Cell phone users may text 620-3481

Internet users email at pcr52@sbcglobal.net

Telephone callers leave message at 354-2327

Note writers leave message in white mailbox

Voting begins at the end of this worship service

Voting ends Monday evening at 12 midnight

The "deadly sin" with the fewest votes will be preached on next Sunday

Master copy of notes and audio version of the sermon at
www.middletownnaz.com