

## "Blessed are the pure in heart..." Matthew 5:8

**Objective:** to deepen our conviction about God's standard for holiness, or moral purity, in our everyday lives; to learn how to develop a heart motivated to please God through obedience; to gain insight into practical ways we can discipline ourselves for godliness.

### ❖ Our Designer

- Created to be godly—God's image Gen 1:27
  
- Redeemed to live holy—God's intent 2 Cor 5:17; 1 Thess 4:7

**Checkpoint:** As our Creator and Redeemer, God has every right to be Lord of my life.

Being all-wise and all-loving, our Designer not only knows what is best for me, but wants what is best for me.

### ❖ Our Decisions

- Hurt from wrong decisions 2 Cor 7:1; Gal 6:6-7
  - Body
  - Soul
  - Spirit
  
- Help from right decisions Isaiah 48:17, 18; Rom 6, 8
  - Body
  - Soul
  - Spirit

**Checkpoint:** As a free moral person, God has given me the freedom to choose to obey or disobey Him.

Every choice I make has potential consequences that could either help me or hurt me; if not now, then later.

Checkpoint: Beware of lies and myths. We act on our beliefs.  
 Lie: God wants me to be happy. Lust will make me happy.  
 Truth: God wants me to be holy. I will be most happy when I am most holy.  
 Lie: Lust is no big deal today; besides who will know?  
 Truth: God's command is 'not even a hint of immorality' (porneia); figuratively it is idolatry. God sees the heart even before we act its desires.

❖ **Our Dedication**

➤ Heart----Desire

Jer 24:7; Is 57:15

➤ How-----Discipline

1 Tim 4:7; Job 31:1

**“Resolved, never to give over,  
 nor in the least to slacken  
 my fight with my  
 corruptions, however  
 unsuccessful I may be.”  
 Jonathan Edwards**

What is your motivation to be holy?

What lies do you most often believe?

SCRIPTURE	MOTIVATION FOR PURITY	DANGER OF IMPURITY
	<b>LIES</b>	<b>TRUTH</b>

**Exercise**

What are some of the 'triggers' to impurity? \_\_\_\_\_  
What time of day are you most vulnerable? \_\_\_\_\_  
Where are you most vulnerable? \_\_\_\_\_  
What can I do to be more alert, avoid, or otherwise not make provision to disobey? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is God telling me to do today?

**Stop**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Start**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Surrender**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Memorize**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Become accountable to** \_\_\_\_\_

**For** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

## MORAL PURITY

Every disciple of Jesus Christ is called to pursue a life of holiness. God has expressed His will very clearly regarding our thoughts and actions as one of His chosen people. The love of God and the fear of the Lord are to motivate us to desire God in such a way as to be devoted to a life of godliness.

### 1. Circle key words and phrases in the following Scriptures.

<sup>3</sup>For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; <sup>4</sup>that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, <sup>5</sup>not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God;  
**1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 (ESV)**

<sup>18</sup>Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. <sup>19</sup>Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? <sup>20</sup>For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.  
**1 Corinthians 6:18-20 (NRSV)**

<sup>27</sup>“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘*You shall not commit adultery.*’ <sup>28</sup>But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.  
**Matthew 5:27-28 (NKJV)**

<sup>22</sup>throw off your old evil nature and your former way of life, which is rotten through and through, full of lust and deception. <sup>23</sup>Instead, there must be a spiritual renewal of your thoughts and attitudes. <sup>24</sup>You must display a new nature because you are a new person, created in God’s likeness—righteous, holy, and true.  
**Ephesians 4:22-24 (New Living Translation)**

<sup>14</sup>as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, *as* in your ignorance; <sup>15</sup>but as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all *your* conduct, <sup>16</sup>because it is written, “*Be holy, for I am holy.*”  
**1 Peter 1:14-16 (NKJV)**

<sup>7</sup>Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; <sup>8</sup>for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.  
**1 Timothy 4:7-8 (ESV)**

### 2. Briefly state what you learn about moral purity from each verse:

1 Thess 4:3-5

Eph 4:22-24

1 Cor 6:18-20

1 Peter 1:14-16

Matt 5:27-28

1 Tim 4:7-8

### 3. Select one of the verses for the verse study (next page).

### 4. Write down which verse you plan to memorize. \_\_\_\_\_

**Verse Study**

Using the verse selected from the opposite page, complete the following:

- 1. Pick two of the key word(s) or phrases and define each one.**

Key word or phrase \_\_\_\_\_

Definition \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Key word or phrase \_\_\_\_\_

Definition \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 2. Paraphrase the verse in your own words, using the expanded definitions from Question 2.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 3. How can I apply this verse to my life this week?**

Stop \_\_\_\_\_  
Start \_\_\_\_\_  
Confess \_\_\_\_\_  
Surrender \_\_\_\_\_  
Thoughts \_\_\_\_\_  
Sight \_\_\_\_\_  
Speech \_\_\_\_\_  
Actions \_\_\_\_\_

- 4. Write a brief prayer expressing your desire or request to God.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Format of this study taken from *Thirty Discipleship Exercises*, Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.