

Pure Joy: Purity Self-Portrait

First Baptist Student Ministry
Ignite – Wednesday, February 25, 2015

The following message derived from the book, "**Pure Joy: God's Formula For Passionate Living**" © 2001, LifeWay Press.

Video = "Swimming With Sharks" (BluefishTV, 2:59)

I. Why You Shouldn't Be Listening Right Now

a. Keep Away From This:

- i. There are a lot of reasons Satan wants to keep you away from (tonight's message)... (pg.8)

b. But, More Importantly:

- i. There is one reason why Jesus... (pg.8)

c. Purity Self-Portrait

- i. Kerstin's story (pg.7 = pic on screen)

Matthew 5:8 = "God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God." (NLT)

II. Your Invitation To Pure Joy

a. A Flood Of Questions

- i. "Hearts pure"? = Provoke flood of questions... (pg.8)
- ii. This study was created to help you reach the understanding that purity is an attainable goal in the life of a follower of Christ. (pg.8)

Luke 10:40-41 = "40But Martha was distracted with all her preparations; and she came up to Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to do all the serving alone? Then tell her to help me."

41But the Lord answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things." (NASB)

- iii. What does this story teach us about our focus? (pg.8, Students share)
- iv. Are you more like Martha, running around trying to do a lot of things; or are you more like her sister Mary, sitting at Jesus' feet, listening to what He has to say? (pg.8)

b. Can You Relate To This Guy?

- i. Dave's story (pg.8-9 = pic on screen)

2 Samuel 11:1-5 = "1Then it happened in the spring, at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him and all Israel, and they destroyed the sons of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But David stayed at Jerusalem. 2Now when evening came David arose from his bed and walked around on the roof of the king's house, and from the roof he saw a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful in appearance. 3So David sent and inquired about the woman. And one said, "Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" 4David sent messengers and took her, and when she came to him, he lay with her; and when she had purified herself from her uncleanness, she returned to her house. 5The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, and said, "I am pregnant." (NASB)



- ii. How does Dave's story relate to King David's struggle? (pg.9)
- iii. King David experienced restlessness and emptiness similar to Dave's. This lack of peace ultimately drove him to commit unspeakable sins that put up a wall between him and God. The concept of purity is more than just a sexual barometer. Purity is a vital part of every aspect of your life, but it is not something that you can attain on your own... allow Him complete and total access to every public and private area of your life." (pg.9)

c. When You Can't Do It Alone

- i. **2 Corinthians 12:9** = His grace is sufficient!

d. You Know You Need His Help

- i. If you know you need His help, how much time do you spend with him?
- ii. "Where Am I?" questions (pg.10)
- iii. **Colossians 3:17** = whatever you do, do it for Him!
- iv. Think about this = "I find it difficult to give God complete access to these things in my life..." (pg.10)

III. Your Question Of Where You've Been

- a. Most difficult thing = forgive themselves for sin of the past.

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Ignite Small Group Leader Guide

- b. Questions To Think About (pg.11):**
- What events or things in your past have made you hesitant to even try to be pure before God?
 - Are there any areas or issues of unforgiveness in your life that have driven a wedge b/t you and God?
 - What idols are present in your life?
- c. Idols are things that you consider to be more important than or equally important as your relationship with God.**
- d. There's Hope! (The good news is that God has the ability to completely bring you into purity!)**
- 1 John 1:9, Isa. 1:18, Col. 3:13, Ps. 103:12 (pg.12)

IV. Your Happiness And Your Joy (The Difference)

- We hear our friends say things like, "I'm just not happy with my life"... The root of the word *happy* is the same root that is used for *happens*. *Happiness* happens.... out of our control... happiness alone will never equal joy...
- Joy* is an eternal satisfaction regardless of circumstance. Joy survives regardless of tragedy, defeat, or isolation. Joy is a God thing... In a dank, putrid, Roman jail, we find the apostle Paul penning the words, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" (Phil. 4:4)

Habakkuk 3:17-18 = "17-18 Though the cherry trees don't blossom and the strawberries don't ripen, Though the apples are worm-eaten and the wheat fields stunted, Though the sheep are sheepless and the cattle barns empty, I'm singing joyful praise to God. I'm turning cartwheels of joy to my Savior God." (Message)

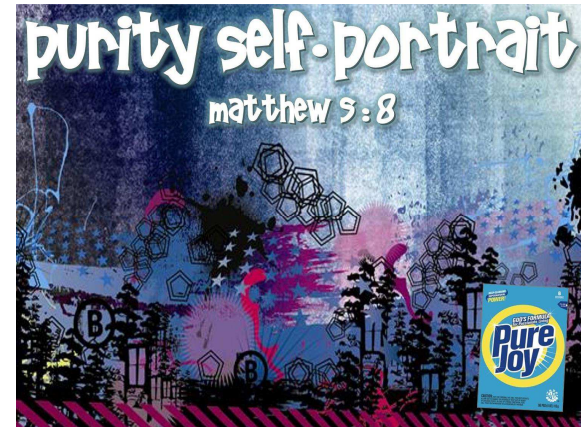
- You ever feel like that? (v.17)
 - Do you still praise God? (v.18)
- c. When these things happen, will you still be able to "rejoice in the Lord"? (1 Pet. 1:8) (pg.13)

V. Your Enemy Seeks To Steal Your Joy

- a. Satan's Three-Pronged Strategy (pg.13)**
- The Shame Strategy**
 - How to overcome it = Heb 10:19,22
 - The Addiction Strategy**
 - How to overcome it = 2 Tim. 2:22
 - The Backward Strategy**
 - How to overcome it = John 10:10

When you seek to be "pure in heart", you will "see God" like never before!

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Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015

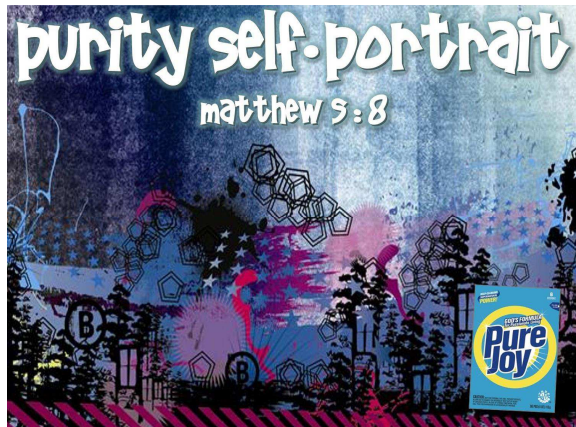
Lesson Objective: Purity. Tonight we will answer the question about how to have hearts that are pure. Our guide will be an awesome discipleship resource called "Pure Joy: God's Formula For Passionate Living". We will share stories about purity, dig into Scriptures about purity, and evaluate where we are and where we're heading with our purity.

Lesson Text: **Matthew 5:8** = "God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God." (NLT)

Discussion Questions:

-  Being entirely real tonight, where in your life could you use more purity right now? (In your relationships? On your phone or computer? In your mind? In the words you use? In the media you consume?)
-  Out of the three strategies of the Enemy we discussed tonight, which one is he currently using in your life? (Shame, Addiction, or Backward)
-  What idols in your life tonight do you need to get rid of or back off from so you can spend more time with Jesus?

Prayer Time: It is time to get real. It is time to see God. It is time to be pure in heart. Pray for purity (in your life and in the lives of others).



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I. Why You Shouldn't Be _____ Right Now

a. Keep _____ From This

b. But, _____ Importantly

c. Purity _____-Portrait



Matthew 5:8 = "God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God." (NLT)

II. Your Invitation To _____

a. A _____ Of Questions

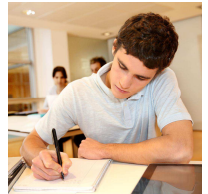
- Luke 10:40-41
- What does this story teach us about our focus?

b. Can You _____ To This Guy?

- 2 Samuel 11:1-5

c. When You Can't Do It _____

- 2 Corinthians 12:9



d. You Know You _____ His Help

- "Where Am I?" Questions

III. Your Question Of _____ You've Been

a. Questions To _____ About

b. There's _____!

IV. Your _____ Seeks To Steal Your _____

a. Satan's Three-Pronged _____:

- The _____ Strategy
 - How to overcome it = Heb. 10:19,22
- The _____ Strategy
 - How to overcome it = 2 Tim. 2:22
- The _____ Strategy
 - How to overcome it = John 10:10

