

February 5, 2012

JOURNEY GROUPS

Pursuing Christ through Purity • 1 Corinthians 5:1-13

Sermon Notes

1. We must choose our activities carefully. 1-8
 - A. AVOID: evil motives & evil actions (1 Jn. 2:15-17)
 - B. PURSUE: pure motives & pure actions (2 Tim. 2:19-22)

2. We must choose our companions carefully. 9-13
 - A. AVOID: relationships with fools (1 Cor. 15:30)
 - Sexual immorality: all forms of sexual sin;
 - Greedy: lusts for the possessions of others;
 - Idolatry: participant in pagan worship rituals;
 - Reviler: uncontrolled, ungodly, abusive speech;
 - Drunkard: controlled by alcohol/narcotics;
 - Swindler: conman; takes financial advantage

 - B. PURSUE: relations with the wise (Pr. 13:20)

Additional Study Information

Key idea: Our choice of activities and companions will influence our walk with Christ, either positively or negatively.

Questions

1. How does the Spirit use the Word to clarify our choices of behavior and friends?

2. Andy Stanley, in his book "The Principle of the Path", writes, "What gets our attention determines our direction and, ultimately, our destination." In light of this statement, what are your core values, how do those values affect your priorities, and how do your priorities affect your decision-making?

3. Are you giving an inordinate amount of attention to something that a year ago wasn't even on your radar screen? If so, what is it?

4. Is there anyone or anything you are giving attention to that, if it were to become public, would be embarrassing...or worse? Explain.

5. It is always easier for someone to pull us down rather than us pulling someone up. Because of this, it is important to make sure that we pray through our choices for close friendships. How do you determine your closest friendships?

6. Building intentional relationships with unbelievers is a key strategy to sharing Christ. How do you develop friendships with unbelievers without being drawn into their lifestyle choices?

7. We most likely have associations with people who do not share our faith or values. How many people are currently pulling you down in your walk with Christ? How can you change that? (1 Corinthians 15:33)

8. Read Proverbs 4:25-27. What does the author instruct us to do with our eyes? How do you determine which television shows and movies are appropriate for you to watch?

Digging Deeper

From "The Principle of the Path"

Stanley, Andy. *The Principle of the Path*. p.199. Thomas Nelson. Nashville.2008

"Whereas *emotion* fuels the things that grab your attention, *intentionality* fuels your decision to give certain things your attention. "How would you define *intentionality*?"

How can you train yourself to allow intentionality to override emotion? How do you define intentionality and how can you train yourself to allow intentionality to override emotion?

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever. (1 John 2:15-17 ESV)