

Outline – Part 6
Feeding the monster

1. We all have areas in our life that are inconsistent with Christ, His word, will and way.
2. We all should desire victory in those areas that are inconsistent with Christ, His word, will, and way.

L.I.O.N.

- L – Living
- I – Intentionally
- O – On Earth
- N – Now

Flesh: The flesh is the human nature that all people possess, whether saved or unsaved.

“The indwelling principle of sin (flesh) is constantly mounting a military campaign against the new nature, trying to gain victory and control of a believers thoughts and actions” John Witmer

Galatians 5:17

For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

The 2 Natures:

Sinful Nature (fallen nature)

John 3:3

Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

Spirit nature (divine nature; ie. Holy Spirit)

Romans 7:22-25

For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, 23 but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. 24 Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? 25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

Galatians 5:19

Now the works of the flesh are evident...

4 Categories of the flesh:

Galatians 5:19-21

Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Sexual Sin:

sexual immorality “Porneia” – all forms of forbidden sexual relationships and activities

impurity (akatharsia) – all moral uncleanness in thought, word, or deed

sensuality (aselgeia) – licentiousness, indecency, shameless display of sensual behavior

Religious sin:

Idolatry – worship of anything other than God, and all that is involved in that worship.

Sorcery (pharmakeia) – witchcraft, the use of certain influences to aid in the practice

Relational Sins:

Enmity – quarrels, hatred, seething hostility

Strife – antagonistic behavior and attitude

Jealousy – self-centered animosity

Fits of anger – outbursts of rage, wrath, punching, hitting, kicking, screaming

Rivalries – divisions between people caused by selfish ambition, putting others down to get ahead.

Dissensions – Divisions between people, groups of people

Divisions – Divisions over issues of personality, divisions based on differences

Envy – the plaguing desire to have what others have

Sins of overindulgence:

Drunkenness – excessive use of intoxicants, getting high or inebriated

Orgies – (a term that makes us blush...doesn't mean quite what we think it means) – parties involving excessive eating and drinking.

Gluttony – excessive use of food

- And just in case we start to think that certain things are acceptable because they are not on the list..

and things like these.

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Mark 7:14-16

And he called the people to him again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand: 15 There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him."

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Mark 7:17-21a

And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. 18 And he said to them, "Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, 19 since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.) 20 And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him. 21 For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts...

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"The order of the text is true to life. Sin proceeds from the heart (human nature) to the thoughts (human mind) to actions (human deeds)." Dr. Constable

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6 Plural depictions of the flesh:

Sexual immorality "Porneia" – all forms of forbidden sexual relationships and activities

Theft – taking what does not legally belong to you

Murder – taking the life of another person unjustly

Adultery – illicit sexual relations by a married person

Coveting – insatiable cravings for what belongs to another

Wickedness – all forms of impure behavior as motivated by evil thoughts

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6 Singular temperaments of the flesh

Deceit – cunning maneuvering designed to ensnare someone for personal advantage

Sensuality – unrestrained and outward immoral behavior

Envy – the plaguing desire to have what others have

Slander – defaming speech against God or man

Pride – arrogantly exalting self above others

Foolishness – a lack of spiritual sensitivity – obtuse – oblivious to spiritual things

Mark 7:23

...All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Applications:

1. Leverage conviction:

2. Expose it to the light:

John 3:20-21

For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. 21 But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

3. Consider it crucified:

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

4. Guard your heart:

Proverbs 4:23

Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

Proverbs 25:28

A man without self-control

is like a city broken into and left without walls.

5. Replace it with something

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Galatians 5:16

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

"This fruit comes in nine delicious flavors." Dr. Constable

But the fruit of the Spirit is (singular fruit)

Love – sacrificial affection for others, vertical and horizontal love.

Joy – deep-seated gladness regardless of circumstances.

Peace – inner quietness and stillness regardless of circumstances

Patience - restraint even when provoked

Kindness – gracious spirit

Goodness – serving and reaching out to others

Faithfulness – reliable and trustworthy

Gentleness – submission to authority, considering others

Self-control – ability to master the self.