Sermon Notes – Sunday 15th October

‘Pursuing Purity’

Here Jesus teaches about adultery and lust emphasizing that integrity requires both inner and outward purity for true righteousness before God.

Reflect on David’s longing in Psalm 51:10

* What do you think he means by a ‘steadfast spirit’?

Read Matthew 5:27-30

* Why do you think the sin of adultery features so high on God’s list that it should occupy a place in his top ten?
* What does that suggest as the Biblical pattern for sexual intimacy? How would you summarise this pattern?
* Jesus builds on the Old Testament law with the words, ‘But I tell you…’ (v22,28,32). What is the ‘new’ standard Jesus is bringing?
* What does this passage tell us about the importance of our mind? See also Romans 12:2
* The world may say what goes on in your own mind can’t hurt anyone. How would you respond to this? Is it harmful to engage or entertain thoughts that Jesus says are wrong? Why or why not?
* How can we win the battle of the mind by taking control over what we allow our minds to dwell on?
* What is Jesus saying in v 29-30 by using this form of exaggerated speech?
* What practical steps can you take to remove the source or sources of temptation?
* What can you do to support one another who might be battling with unhelpful thoughts that can lead into sin?

Pray for one another to hold fast to the purity of heart and mind that Jesus calls us too.

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