

A BUNCH OF THINGS YOU SHOULD DO:

1. We've had a lot of guests lately. Praise God! In an effort to love on our guests, consider sitting in the center section, closer to the front to keep back seats open to our guests
2. Father-Daughter Dance! At Freshwater, this Saturday, March 17th @ 630 pm
3. Volunteer celebration, March 18th right after church, Rainbow Lanes! Bowling!
4. Good Friday Gathering @ Freshwater, March 30th @ 7pm

OPEN IN PRAYER

RECAP: This week in our series, **"THE 7 DEADLY SINS,"** the deadly sin we discussed was **"LUST."** The main point was, **"Lust destroys value, love restores value."** Lust focuses on the physical, but love focuses on the spiritual. One of the best ways to deal with lust is to understand the love toward others that God calls us to, and how to live it out.

LUST: Lust is an inordinate desire for sexual pleasures. As John Piper says, *"lust is the realm of thought, imagination, and desire that leads to sexual misconduct."*

1. Take a moment to go around and discuss what from Sunday's sermon encouraged or challenged you.

PAUSE

If lust is a struggle for you, you'll have time to share that during prayer requests at the end, or if you prefer to share in confidence one on one, please reach out to your community group leader or someone else within the faith you trust. Considering Sunday's sermon, our goal now is to discuss how we can fight this sin by pursuing God's love to others.

WITHOUT LOVE

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-3 *"1 If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but **do not have love**, I have become **a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal**. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but **do not have love**, I am **nothing**. 3 And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but **do not have love**, it **profits me nothing**."*

1. As you consider the issues of lust, first let's take a moment to discuss how you may experience the issue described in these verses in your life.
 - a. Are there areas of your life where you feel a lack of love?
2. How has a lack of love in these areas affected your relationships?

THE LOVE OF THE WORLD

1 JOHN 2:15-16 *"15 Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. 16 For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world."*

1. Sunday Troy shared some stats and information on where our culture is at in terms of lust. Take a moment to discuss how you see how you see a "LOVE OF THE WORLD" in our world.
 - a. How has it contributed to the sin of lust?

RESTORATION

GALATIANS 6:1-4, 9-10 *"1 Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ. 3 For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 But each one must examine his own work, --- 9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. 10 So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith."*

1. It takes people to "RESTORE" other people from their sin. And we know people are very reluctant to confess the sin of lust. In what ways do you feel the church is challenged to live out what is commanded in these verses?
2. Are there any ways you could help to foster a church described in these verses?

APPLICATION

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-8b *"4 Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, 5 It does not dishonor others; it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails..."*

1. Describe one or more aspects of the description of love that you tend to struggle with in relationship with others.
2. In an effort to 'humanize' others through love, share what one aspect of this description of love you want to work on.

CLOSE IN PRAYER: As you close in prayer be encouraged to share ANYTHING you desire prayer for, as well as anything specifically relating to today's discussion.