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**SERMON NOTES July 17, 2022**

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Today's notes also available at [CCPL.life/Connect](http://CCPL.life/Connect)

**Ephesians 5:3-6  
Seduced by Discontentment  
Pastor Mike**

1. Taking off the sins of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ issues driving our \_\_\_\_\_

a. Sexual temptation is rooted in \_\_\_\_\_

b. These desires grow from a \_\_\_\_\_

We doubt God's \_\_\_\_\_ by suspecting his \_\_\_\_\_

c. Our ultimate sin is \_\_\_\_\_

We sin because we don't \_\_\_\_\_...

...and thus refuse to \_\_\_\_\_

3. Putting on the character of \_\_\_\_\_

a. This flow from \_\_\_\_\_ in God's \_\_\_\_\_

b. The key is our confidence \_\_\_\_\_

4. Fighting \_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_

a. Truth about \_\_\_\_\_ and natural \_\_\_\_\_

b. Truth about \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Questions for reflection, application, and discussion

1. In Ephesians 5:3 Paul teaches that among believers “*sexual immorality and all impurity and covetousness must not even be named among you.*” One translation says that there should be a hint of these things among us. Do you believe that most Christ-followers understand this to be God’s standard? Why or why not?
  - a. What are “hints of sexuality and impurity” that we have allowed and accepted into our lives? That you have allowed and accepted into your life?
  - b. To what degree do your following activities include at least “a hint” of sexual immorality or impurity; The TV shows you watch? The websites you visit and the time you spend on the Internet? The movies you watch? The radio you listen to? The conversations participate in?
  - c. In 1 Corinthians 6:20 Paul teaches that we should “*honor God with your body.*” This is not a don’t, but a do. How can you honor God with your body when it comes to your sexuality?
2. Ephesians 5:3 links sexual immorality and impurity with covetousness. What is the relationship between these ideas?
3. This passage teaches that anyone engaged in a pattern of sexual immorality is ultimately guilty of idolatry; their actions demonstrate that God is not in the place of God in their lives. Is this always true? Is such a person always ultimately guilty of idolatry? Why or why not?
4. In his message Pastor Mike taught that our struggle with sexual immorality and impurity always grow from a distrust of God and his love. We doubt God’s goodness and his love by doubting his provision. How do you respond to this idea? Is this always the case? Is this the case in your own life?
5. After calling us to take off sexual immorality and impurity, the righteousness that Paul calls us to put on instead is not purity, but thankfulness.
  - a. At first glance, does this surprise you? Do you naturally think of thanksgiving as being the key to overcoming sexual temptation?
  - b. Pastor Mike said this morning that contentment with God’s provision will always result in a willing and natural submission to God’s will in our lives. Do you agree with this? Is this always true?
  - c. Does this mean that all sin is to some degree rooted in discontentment with God’s provision? Why or why not?
  - d. We have seen that God calls us to righteous character that always fulfills and is superior to the rules (the don’ts) of morality. How is the character of gratitude and thanksgiving superior to the actions of moral purity?