

Lesson 7: "Principle and Practice"

Intro- Recap

- Following God means learning to love- **1 John 4:8**
- Love becomes our constant practice- **1 Corinthians 16:14**
- Love permeates and controls every part of our being- **Mark 12:30**
- Love sacrifices self-interest for Christ's interests, and it all begins with truth
- Truth matures us in biblical love- **Ephesians 4:11-14**
- Is rejoicing an emotion?
- **Philippians 4:4-9**
- **Colossians 3:15**
- Why is confidence in God's Word crucial to emotional stability?
- **John 17:17**
- Why is confidence in God's power crucial to our emotional stability?
- **John 17:11**
- **Romans 8:28-30**- Our confidence: the unbreakable chain from election to glorification
- **1 Peter 1:3-4**- The result: heaven is reserved for us, through a secure faith
- **Ephesians 2:8-9**- The source: faith is secure because God is the source
- **Ephesians 1:19-20**- Our strength: the spiritual resources available to us

Lying Vanities

- Jonah's disobedience
- **Jonah 2:8**- lying vanities
- Believing outrageous lies
- **Colossians 3:5**- idolatry
- What makes something an idol?

Recognizing the Battle

- **Galatians 5:17**- the battle between flesh and spirit
- **Romans 7:21-23**- Paul's experience in the battle
- Passions and emotions can cloud our judgment
- Practical principles for use in our biblical framework

The Need for Humility

- What is humility?
- **1 Corinthians 4:7**- what do you have that you did not receive?
- **Philippians 2:3-4**- regard others as more important than yourself
- **Matthew 5:3**- spiritual poverty
- Why is humility critical in the battle between flesh and spirit?
- **Proverbs 12:1**- the connection between unteachability and stupidity
- How would you recognize pride in yourself?

The Need for Love

- What is biblical love?
- **John 14:15, Psalm 136:1**
- **1 John 3:16**
- Recalling 1 Corinthians 13
- How does love for God and others impact how you battle sin?
- **John 14:23**

The Need for Faith

- **James 1:22**
- How do you know when you're acting in faith?
- Why do we still sometimes seek worldly wisdom?
- **Galatians 5:16**- change is a work of the Spirit
- **Galatians 5:23-24**- the Fruit of the Spirit

Applying Principles

Anger

- What's the difference between righteous anger and sinful anger?
- **Ephesians 4:26**
- **John 2:13-17**
- **Romans 12**
- So what is sinful anger?
- **Matthew 5:22**
- **Proverbs 15:18**
- **James 1:19-20**
- What does a pattern of anger reveal about your heart?
- **James 4:1-2**
- How do we crucify sinful anger, and what do we put in its place?

Sinful Fear and Anxiety

- When does fear become sinful?
- What do sinful fears and anxieties reveal about your heart?
- **Matthew 6:25-34**
- How do we crucify sinful fears and anxieties?
- **Philippians 4:11-12**
- **Psalm 43:5**