

Moral Guidelines (4)

Galatians 5:16-20

I Peter 2:11 “Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against your soul.”

Ephesians 5:8 “For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.”

Intro—Integrity/ Separation from the world/Human relationships/ Your relationship with God.

I. Jealousies./ Envy

In the Context: Many of the very people that Paul loved and was trying to minister to had this attitude. Sadly many of his own countrymen (Fellow Jews). Paul’s desire. Compete/ look bad.

Definition: Hateful resentment.

Can stem from:

Comparison, competition, or the fear of being replaced, selfishness.

a recent study in the journal *Developmental Psychology*—The study determined that adolescents with **lower levels of self worth** were more likely to become jealous.

Covetousness—you want what someone else has, resent what someone else has.

Four types of Jealousy that students deal with:

A) Jealousy of possession/ property.
What someone else has.

Ex. Clothes (White sox shorts), Wardrobe, Car, Phone, lifestyle

Illustration: I Kings 21:1-16 Ahab wanted what didn’t belong to him.

B) Jealousy of popularity/ position.

Ex. Homecoming, accomplishment, talent, success, reputation, response, etc.

Illustration: I Samuel 18:7-16 Saul despised the fact that the nation had labeled David as a hero. More recognition/ popular.

C) Romantic jealousy.

Movies—(I want that). Resent dating couples/ love. Maybe—friend begins to date a person you wanted to date.

Undermine, gossip, etc. Story: Hood’s

Song of Solomon 8:6 “Jealousy [is] as cruel as the grave.”

Proverbs 27:4 “Wrath is cruel and anger a torrent, but who is able to stand before jealousy.” John M. (Most uncontrollable sin)

D) Friendship jealousy.

The underlying factor in this negative behavior [jealousy] is the same as it is for everyone -- adolescents fear losing friendships, so they behave in a jealous manner to "protect" them, even if their behavior is actually destructive.

E) Family jealousy.

(Key Point) When you are jealous you are telling God, that you are not content with what He has given you!/ Need vs. Want/
Characteristic of the devil. **I Timothy 6:6**

II. Outbursts of wrath/ Rage.

In the Context: Jealousy

Def.: Sudden, unrestrained expressions of hostility/Stems from jealousy.

Dr. Keith Olson, "Anger is a very commonly experienced and displayed emotion during [the teenage years]."

"Anger in itself, is not sin, because God can even become angry."

Uncontrolled outward expressions of anger.

Causes of Anger:

A) Frustration.

Maybe the most frustrating time of your life. "very active, energized, expansive, and expressive time of development."

Frustrated about: getting a boyfriend/girlfriend, driver's license, car, prom date, curfew, music, what you watch.

B) Alienation.

Rejection—"If a student continually feels alienation and/ or [rejection] anger reactions are normal. They can be outwardly expressed or they can be internally directed in self-destructive, risk taking substance abuse and even suicide."

Preach acceptance

C) Hurt.

Physical & emotional.

Called a name, insulted, made fun of, humiliated, ignored or threatened.

D) Injustice.

You have been done wrong.

How do I deal with anger?

1. Replace the natural with the supernatural.

Proverbs 15:1 "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."
Think before you speak.

Is what I am about to do worth it? Woman/
Shotgun

James 1:19, 20 "So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; 20 for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God."

2. Handle your anger in a timely manner.

Ephesians 4:26, 27 "Be angry, and do not sin: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, 27 nor give place to the devil."

3. Be willing to forgive.

Matthew 18:21, 22

I Cor. 13:5 "Keep no record of wrongs."

(Key Point) Anger when left unaddressed, can lead to aggression, unforgiveness, and revenge, broken relationships, etc.

Illustration: Alexander the Great. Killed his childhood friend in a fit of rage.

III. Selfish ambitions.

In the Context: Christians are not supposed to be selfish.

Definition: devoted to or caring only for oneself; concerned primarily with one's own interests, benefits, welfare, etc., regardless of others.

Jealousy and rage stem from selfishness.

(Key Point) As followers of Christ, He has not called us to be selfish, but selfless.”

Illustration: Luke 22:39-46