

GOING GRIT

The Obstacle of Lust

🔴* **Lust: a consuming desire that is either out of God's bounds or out of godly balance...**

Do not lust in your heart after her beauty or let her captivate you with her eyes... (Prov. 6:25)

...how I have been grieved by their adulterous hearts, which have turned away from me, and by their eyes, which have lusted after their idols. (Ezek. 6:9)

The dark side of lust includes...

- **Replacing God with lifeless counterfeits** – “They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator – who is forever praised. Amen. Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts.” (Rom. 1:25-26a)
- **A quiet force of deadly excess** – “Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.” (Eph. 4:19)

So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! (1 Cor. 10:12)

Going Grit: spiritual stamina to radically pursue holiness...

But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. (Matt. 5:28-29a)

- **Walk by the Spirit** – “So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.” (Gal. 5:16)
- **Run with caution...**

The Biblical “running” strategy...

- **Run from** – “Flee the evil desires of youth...” (2 Tim. 2:22a)
- **Run to** – “...and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace...” (2 Tim. 2:22a)
- **Run with** – “...along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.” (2 Tim. 2:22b)

- **Love to honor** – “Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.” (Rom. 12:9-10)

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. (Matt. 5:8)