

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN F E L L O W S H I P

Matthew 5:27-37 *Governing Ourselves*

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“The Sermon on The Mount”, **Matthew 5:3-7:27**

- The foundation of Christ’s teaching
- Living life before God

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5:3-20, Life defined on God’s terms

Vs. 21-22, The value of ALL human relationships
Vs. 23-26, That defines our relationship with God
Vs. 27-37, Defining what we require of ourselves

Faithfulness & keeping our word

- It lives in our heart

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Our culture is constantly cultivating **dissatisfaction**

I Timothy 6:6, “Now **godliness with contentment** is great gain.”

- **Matthew 5:3-7:27** is godliness defined
- Will we be **defined by it** in our hearts?

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Many people are looking for **what they want** in their lives

- Many are working to **tell them** what they should want

Do we live to **give Christ what HE wants** in our lives?

- To give **in His behalf** what **He wants to give...**
- Even **at the expense** of what we want?
- Life defined by **what we want...**
- Will overrule **what He wants**

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He wants us to want **what He wants**

- **Living to give others** what He gives
- **He never replaces** what He gave first
- He only adds **what builds on it**

Acts 2:42-47 – They **lived to give** what He gave them

- And He gave them more

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Vs. 27-30 isn’t about adultery

- It’s about **how we deal with temptation**
- Our culture cultivates sexual temptation

Hoping for a **temptation free** life

- Guarantees **frustration & failure**
- So **how** will we deal with it?

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Matthew 4:1-11 (Jesus dealing with temptation)

- **I Corinthians 10:13**
(How did Jesus deal with it? **James 4:7-8**)
- **Hebrews 2:18 & 4:15-16**
- **James 1:2-4 & 12-18**

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II Corinthians 12:7-10

- His **thorn in the flesh** was a **fleshly temptation**
- **Paul did** what we’re instructed in **James 4:7-8**
- He said he had to die **daily**
- Don’t be discouraged. Be faithful. **Christ is.**

Freedom & strength don't come in **the absence of temptation**

- It comes in **turning from** temptation TO the **Lord**

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Our **thorny, fleshly temptations:**

- Power, greed, drugs & alcohol, sex, recognition, acquisition...

Need to keep us:

- Aware of **our inability** on our own
- Our **absolute need** for Christ
(It's **our failure** that **convinces us**)
- **His devoted provision** for us
- **His help** when we call out to Him

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Luke 22:31-32, "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. **But I have prayed for you,**

that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, **strengthen your brothers.**"

We're not the first. **We won't be the last.**

- But like Peter & Paul...
- Use **His help** to **help others**

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Matthew 5:29-30...

- What does He want us to do, mutilate our bodies?
- No. **Don't cultivate the temptation** at the source
- Remove yourself from it...
- And **turn to Him** when it comes at you

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NEXT WEEK: Vs. 31-37

Marriage & keeping our word