



FOCUS ON

A MARRIAGE SERIES

NOTES

for today's message

Series based on book, From This Day Forward, by Craig and Amy Groeschel)

WE COMMIT TO:

1. Seek God
2. Fight fair
3. Have fun
4. Stay pure
5. Never give up

Stay Pure

- Relationship with God = pure
- Relationship with my spouse=pure
- You don't build a life of purity on a foundation of sin
- Here's what you need to know:
 - Seeking God happens in the context of a broken world—we want to seek Him, and yet there is an opposing force
- Jesus said that the whole world lies under the power of the evil one.
- Spiritual life is a war and we need a strategy to win.
- *"Enemy-occupied territory--that is what this world is."* - C.S. Lewis
- 3 Components in the battle to stay pure:
 1. The Battlefield we are on
 2. Our Enemy we fight
 3. Our Strategy to win

ROMANS 7:15 For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.

- **SANCTIFICATION** - the process of killing the things that are keeping us away from God and allowing God to cultivate things in us that draw us closer to Him.
 - We have to fight sometimes to participate in the activities that cultivate closeness

ROMANS 8:1-2 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

2 TIMOTHY 2:22A So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace

- **TEMPTATION** - If the enemy can get you to think a certain way, he can lead you to sin.

JAMES 1:14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

MATTHEW 26:41A Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation.

ROMANS 13:14B make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

- **LEGALISM** says "This is something that might tempt me to sin, therefore nobody can ever go there"
- **WISDOM** says, "This is where the enemy gets me, and so I have to avoid this."
- We can't do it alone:
 - Jesus is our strategy to win
 - Cultivating spiritual disciplines is our way of defending ourselves from temptation.

Share a prayer request or connect with us by texting **NRCONNECT** to **97000**