

**1) Out of control desires are the driving force of sin. (4:1)**

A. The human heart has followed its desires from the beginning

B. There is a deep cultural confusion between wants and needs

**-When we treat our needs as a right, ought, or must, we tend to self-justify our next sinful action.**

**-We serve the idol of “felt-needs” at the cost of satisfaction in God**

“...This explains why Christ is sometimes not enough for us. If I stand before him as a cup waiting to be filled with psychological satisfaction, I will never feel quite full. Why? First, because my lusts are boundless; by their very nature, they can't be filled. Second, because Jesus does not intend to satisfy my selfish desires. Instead he intends to break the cup of psychological need.” 148-49

**2) Whatever desires control my heart will control my responses to people and situations. (4:2)**

A. Passion encompasses both good and sinful desires

B. Are your desires ruling you?

1. A good desire is a bad master when it consumes you (I must have it)
2. A good desire is a bad master when you are willing to sin to get it (ends justify the means)
3. A good desire becomes a bad master when you sin if you don't get what you want. (He made me do it)
4. A good desire becomes a bad master when it consumes your prayer life- will your faith fail if you do not get what you want?

**Prayed for properly- the outcome is Reasonableness and peace. Philippians 4:4-7**

**3) Submit your desires to the mercies of God. (6-10)**

1. Recognize your complete lack of ability to change your heart (v6)
2. Do everything within your power to ignite change (v8)
3. Preach the gospel to yourself every single day (v10)