All In with Jordan Easley

G-Rated Sins with R-Rated Warnings

You Asked For It | Week 4 | Matthew 5:21-28

INTRODUCTION	NOTES
From our perspective, it's easy for us to categorize sins: big sins, small sins, sins we should address, and sins that are okay to allow. But from God's perspective, there are no BIG sins or SMALL sins. In the eyes of God, all sin is sin. Now, I know that's different from the way we view sin and sinful activity. To us, a murderer is way worse than a person that hates another person, but Jesus said in Matthew 5 that they're both subject to judgment. They're both sinners. So in today's message, we will look at some of the sins that humans often excuse or allow so that we can be reminded that these sins are still sins and need to be addressed and repented of in each of our lives.	
KEY POINTS	
1. Gluttony Some people believe the sin of gluttony only applies to people that are overweight. That's simply not true. You can be thin and still be guilty of this sin. Why? Because it's not necessarily about eating too many calories. I don't think God's intent in addressing gluttony was to prevent you from having dessert after your lunch. Rather, God's intent is to prevent your heart from making food (and other things) something it's not.	
Your life should never revolve around or rely on anything other than God. Your life should revolve around Him. Not food, not work, not pleasure, not even family. God is your provider. He's the Creator, and everything else is simply His creation. All of those things are good (food is good, work is good, pleasure is good, and family is good), but good things can't sit in God's seat. This is why we need to be careful because when we commit gluttony, we raise food to a level in our lives that only God should inhabit.	
2. Gossip Sometimes we think about gossip as talking behind someone's back. And while the Bible would surely define this kind of talking as being toxic and destructive, when you look at the word "gossip" in the Bible, I think it's talking about something else.	

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Gossip is primarily seen as betraying confidence. It's when you're talking about someone else's business. It's when you make public things that should remain private. And when I say, "make public," that doesn't necessarily mean you're telling everyone or posting about it on Facebook. It could mean you're sharing something you have no business sharing with one other person. Scripture makes it very clear that this kind of talking can destroy friendships, eliminate trust, and cause serious relational and emotional damage.
So, the next time you are tempted to participate in gossip of any kind, I'd encourage you to consider 3 questions: - Is it my place to share this?

- Would I say this out loud if they were standing here?
- Does this need to be said? (Most of the time, the answer will be NO.)

3. God's Name In Vain

In our culture today, the expression "Oh my God" is a part of the normal speech patterns of millions of people. "Oh, my God," we won the game. "Oh, My God," that car almost hit me! When we say those words and we use His name, it may not seem like a big deal to us, but we've got to understand, it is a BIG deal to God.

Now, maybe you're thinking, "When I say God's name like that, I don't mean anything by it." That's exactly the point I'm trying to make. That's what the word "vain" means. It means "empty" or "without purpose." To say something in vain is to say it flippantly and to use it without meaning. When we say God's name, when we write God's name, and when we think God's name, we ought to do so with a holy fear, reverence, respect, and awe.

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- 1. Has there ever been a time when you elevated food (or something else) to a higher level in your life than it should have been? What was the result of that decision you made?
- 2. When was the last time you engaged in gossip and shared something you shouldn't have shared? Did you go back and apologize or is that a situation you still need to rectify?

3.	Have you ever been aware of someone gossiping about you? How did that make you feel? How does that change the way you think about gossip and sharing information that's not yours to share?

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