



The image features a minimalist abstract design on a light beige background. It includes several overlapping circles in muted colors: a large taupe circle on the right, a medium slate blue circle on the left, a small dark brown circle at the bottom center, and a partial mustard yellow circle at the bottom left. In the top left corner, there is a hand-drawn scribble of dark brown lines. On the right edge, there are two dark brown, jagged, hand-drawn marks resembling sound waves or ink splatters. The text is presented in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

HARD
TO HEAR

**HARDER
TO IGNORE**

¹⁷"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."

Matthew

5:17

NIV



²¹"You have heard that our ancestors were told, 'You must not murder. If you commit murder, you are subject to judgment.' ²²But I say, if you are even angry with someone, you are subject to judgment! If you call someone an idiot, you are in danger of being brought before the court. And if you curse someone, you are in danger of the fires of hell."

Matthew 5:21-26 NLT



²³"So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, ²⁴leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God."

²⁵"When you are on the way to court with your adversary, settle your differences quickly. Otherwise, your accuser may hand you over to the judge, who will hand you over to an officer, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶And if that happens, you surely won't be free again until you have paid the last penny."

Matthew 5:21-26 NLT



²⁰If someone says, "I love God," but hates a fellow believer, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see? ²¹And he has given us this command: Those who love God must also love their fellow believers.


1 John 4:20-21 NLT



²⁷"You have heard the commandment that says, 'You must not commit adultery.' ²⁸But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹So if your eye—even your good eye—causes you to lust, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your hand—even your stronger hand—causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell."

Matthew 5:27-30 NLT






This principle **applies** to much more than men looking at women, or vice versa.

It applies to just about anything we can **covet** with the eye or mind.


²²Run from anything that stimulates youthful lusts. Instead, pursue righteous living, faithfulness, love, and peace. Enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts.

2 Timothy 2:22 NLT





What are some foundational
principles that we need to
extract from the text?



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that we need to extract from the text?

God is most concerned
with our heart



²⁰“But I warn you—unless your righteousness is better than the righteousness of the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven!”

Matthew

5:20


NLT



¹⁷I know, my God, that you examine our hearts and rejoice when you find integrity there.

1 Chronicles 29:17a NLT





What are some foundational principles
that we need to extract from the text?

God is not fooled by our
outward appearance



Holiness starts inside of our hearts.



¹⁵But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy.


¹⁶For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy."

1 Peter

1:15-16

NLT





What are some foundational principles
that we need to extract from the text?

True righteousness is heart-centric,
not just action-centric




⁹"And Solomon, my son, learn to know the God of your ancestors intimately. Worship and serve him with your whole heart and a willing mind. For the Lord sees every heart and knows every plan and thought. If you seek him, you will find him."

1 Chronicles



28:9a

NLT






The Lord is not watching
you to **condemn** you. He is
watching to **refine** you.



When we ignore sinful **thoughts**,
it gives birth to sinful desires, that
can grow into sinful habits, which
can become sinful **lifestyles**.





How do we remedy
these things?



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We defeat anger
with **reconciliation**



¹³Make allowance for each other's faults,
and forgive anyone who offends you.
Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you
must forgive others.

Colossians

3:13

NLT





How do we remedy these things?

We defeat covetousness
with **contentment**



⁶Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. ⁷After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it. ⁸So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content.

⁹But people who long to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction.

1 Timothy

6:6-9

NLT



¹Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God.

2 Corinthians

7:1

NLT



Where are you
trying to keep His
commands, but
closing your eyes
to His **intent**?

