





<sup>17</sup>"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



<sup>21</sup>"You have heard that our ancestors were told, You must not murder. If you commit murder, you are subject to judgment.' <sup>22</sup>But 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



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

<sup>25</sup>"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. <sup>26</sup>And if that happens, you surely won't be free again until you have paid the last penny."

# Matthew 5:21-26 NLT



<sup>20</sup>If 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? <sup>21</sup>And he has given us this command: Those who love God must also love their fellow believers.

#### 1 John 4:20-21 NLT



<sup>27</sup>"You have heard the commandment that says, 'You must not commit adultery.' <sup>28</sup>But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup>So 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. <sup>30</sup>And 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 <u>applies</u> to much more than men looking at women, or vice versa.

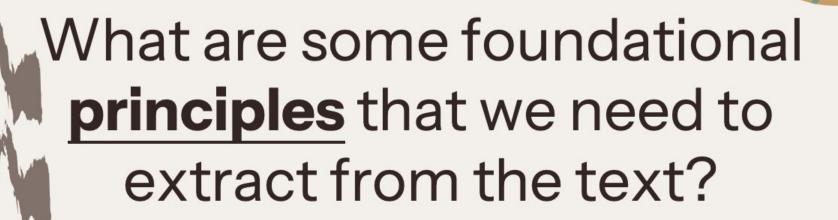
It applies to just about anything we can **covet** with the eye or mind.



<sup>22</sup>Run 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?

### God is most concerned with our **heart**



<sup>20</sup>"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



<sup>17</sup>I 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.

<sup>15</sup>But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. <sup>16</sup>For 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 <u>heart</u>-centric, not just <u>action</u>-centric



<sup>9</sup>"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.







### How do we remedy these things?



How do we remedy these things?

### We defeat anger with reconciliation



<sup>13</sup>Make 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**



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

<sup>9</sup>But 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



<sup>1</sup>Because 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**?

