

**BLURRED LINES:**  
**IN THE WORLD, NOT OF THE WORLD**

*/ John 2:15-17*

Friday Night Keynote Devotional

Justin Morton

**INTRODUCTION:**

- A. The greatest decision a person will ever make is to dedicate and surrender their lives to Jesus (Gal. 2:20).
- B. We want our lives to be centered on Jesus, but maybe more often than we'd like, that's not what ends up happening.
- C. Often, we find our love for the world competing with our love for Jesus.

**WE CANNOT BE FULLY COMMITTED TO GOD IF WE LOVE THE WORLD.**

- A. John is giving them a command that He expects them to obey.
- B. There is no such thing as an open relationship with God. We cannot love God and love what He hates (Jam. 4:4; Matt. 6:24).
- C. Those who love the world do not love the father.

**LOVE FOR THE WORLD INTERFERES WITH OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.**

- A. Demas (2 Tim. 4:9-11) - Even though Demas was once a fellow-worker with Paul (Philemon 24), he succumbed to the lures of the world and walked away from being a servant of God.
- B. Judas Iscariot (Matt. 26:14-16) – He sold out Jesus for 30 pieces of silver.
- C. The Rich young ruler (Lk. 18:18-23) – Walked away from following Jesus and having eternal life.

**WHY DO WE STRUGGLE WITH LOVING THE WORLD?**

- A. Lust of the Flesh (Gal. 5:19-21)
- B. Lust of the Eyes (Matt. 5:27-28; Job 31:1)
- C. Pride of Life (Matt. 16:26)

### **How Do We Live IN The World Without Loving And Being Like The World?**

- A. Choose the eternal over the temporary (Phil. 3:20; Heb. 11:24).
- B. Choose to do God's will (Jn. 14:15; I Jn. 5:3).

### **Conclusion:**

- A. If we want to live pleasing lives to God, it starts by not allowing our love for the world to compete with our love for the Lord.
- B. God would not ask us to do something that was impossible for us to do. We can live in the world without falling in love with and becoming like the world.

**BLURRED LINES:**

**Learning to Blush**

*Jeremiah 6:15; 8:12*

Saturday Morning Keynote Devotional

J.D. Russell

**Introduction:**

- A. What makes you shame? Do you feel shame often?
- B. When you are ashamed, how do you react?
- C. Do you feel ashamed when you are sin?

**Shame is Not Shameful**

- A. Israel did not feel shame when they sinned (Jer. 6:15; 8:12)
- B. Are we proud of our sin, or are we ashamed?
- C. God punishes those who sin and do not feel regret for doing it, look at Israel going into exile.
- D. How we feel about sin is a big part of learning to follow God.

**Peter and Paul Both Felt Shame**

- A. Peter felt shame when he denied Jesus (Matt. 26:69-75).
- B. Paul felt shame because of the things that he did in the past (1 Tim. 1:15; Acts 22).
- C. If these two felt shame because of their actions, shouldn't we feel shame when we fall short?

**Sin is Shameful and We Should Avoid It**

- A. Psalm 1:1 tells us about becoming comfortable around sin.
- B. When we become comfortable around sin, we do not feel ashamed about what we are doing.
- C. Sin is like a termite eating away at our foundation.

**We Need to Stand Firm Against Sin**

- A. Rom. 12:2 tells us that we should not fit in with the world
- B. This means that there are people that we cannot be friends with.

- C. This means that we may have to find new friends who help us get to heaven rather than keep us from getting there.

**Conclusion:**

- A. Do we still feel shame when we sin?
- B. We need to remember that God hates sin and that we need to stay away from it

**BLURRED LINES:**

**Pursuing Purity in an Impure World**

*Romans 13:14; Matthew 5:8*

Saturday Morning Girls' Class

Katie Pruett

**Introduction:**

- A. What is the world's depiction of a young woman and how she should live her life today?
- B. Pure is defined as "free from what vitiates, weakens or pollutes."
- C. What does it mean to live a pure life?

**Purity is a Lifestyle.**

- A. It's not a list of things to just avoid.
- B. It's not avoiding getting caught.
- C. It is a manner of living (Phil. 4:8, Rom 12:9.)

**Purity Encompasses a Multitude of Things (Mt. 4:1-11).**

- A. Lust of the flesh. (Rom. 13:14, I Cor. 6:18, Heb. 13:4).
- B. Lust of the eyes (Gal. 5:16-26).
- C. Pride of life (Isaiah 14:12-15).

**P.U.R.E.**

- A. P = Priceless (Psalm 139:14)
- B. U = Unspotted (James 1:27)
- C. R = Redeemed (Gal. 2:20)
- D. E = Eternal (Mt. 5:8)

**Conclusion:**

- A. We are told in Hebrews 11:25, that Moses chose to suffer with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.
- B. Simply put, we should not trade our souls for the brief moments of pleasure caused by sin.

## **BLURRED LINES:**

### **Pursuing Purity in an Impure World**

*Romans 13:14; Matthew 5:8*

Saturday Morning Boys' Class

Chris Trice

#### **Introduction**

- A. As we live our lives here on earth, we all have studied in school and played sports.
- B. We also attend church and have bible class on a regular basis.
- C. Pursing Purity in an Impure World can be hard, but not impossible with God in the center of your life.

#### **So what does it mean to be pure in heart?**

- A. To make pure by not fulfilling \_\_\_\_\_ but \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. To be pure also means unmixed, having a pure heart by being \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. Matthew 6:33
- D. Romans 13:13-14
  - 1. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- E. A pure heart is \_\_\_\_\_ heart.
- F. Through God's Word he gives us the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ we need as His children to remain pure in an impure world.

#### **4 Bible pathways to pursuing in an impure world**

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ our sinful impurity.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ for purity.
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ close to God.

**How do we draw close to Him?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

D. \_\_\_\_\_ for what you watch.

**God desires for us to be Pure & Holy.**

A. \_\_\_\_\_ are the pure in heart. (Matthew 5:8).

**4 things that a pure heart can see**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Conclusion:**

A. What would our lives look like if we truly lived with a pure heart in an impure world?

B. We shouldn't live impurely knowing God's Word and the guidelines that He has set before us in the Bible.

C. We must live with a clean heart and faithfully; having an intimate relationship with God to be with Him eternally in Glory.



## **BLURRED LINES:**

### **The Christian And Tolerance**

*2 Tim. 4:1-5*

Saturday Morning Combined Class

Gregg Woodall

**The Christian and Tolerance** (2 Tim. 4:1-5) - We are called to love all people, but what about those who openly live a life of sin (homosexuality, transgender issues, etc.). How can we love our friends who are different without giving them the impression that we accept and tolerate their sinful decisions? This class will try to offer some helpful suggestions for loving others without accepting and tolerating their sins.

#### **1 Corinthians 6:9-11 (ESV)**

<sup>9</sup> Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,<sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup> And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

##### A. Overview:

1. Moral issues confronting Christians
2. Christians today are confronted with many conflicting views of morality...
3. How does one know what is right and wrong in areas of morality...?

##### B. Authority

###### What Many Accept as Authority in Morality

1. Their Feelings...
2. Their Conscience...
3. Their Friends...

###### The Christian's Authority in Morality

1. Jesus Has All Authority...
2. Jesus Delegate That Authority To His Apostles...
3. Their Authority Pertains to Areas of Morality...

C. Are We to Be Choosy with the Gospel

D. Making Application...

1. We are to preach the gospel to every creature - Mk 16:15
2. The Scriptures also approach fellowship from a negative vantage point:

E. Compromising what Christ taught regarding morality

1. How far should our toleration of immoral folks go? Rev 2:18ff

F. So, what are the Bookends of our tolerance

1. —On one hand we are to love and encourage those in sin to repent and live right through our teaching and example.
2. --On the other hand, we are to rebuke, admonish, flee from and disassociate with those who continue to practice sinful behaviors.

Let's look further into these bookends of tolerance.

## **--LOVE FOR THE LOST--**

1. The importance of sharing the gospel with others cannot be overemphasized...
2. But what is the most effective way to reach people today? A friend or relative invited me - 79%

### **Pray for Your Friends Daily...**

1. The importance of such prayers
2. What you should pray for:
  - a. That God will work together with you:
  - b. That those on your list will have:

### **Speak the Truth in Love**

First, we need to present the truth of God on the subject of homosexuality, but in the proper way.

"And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will." (2Ti 2:24-26)

### **Be Ready to Help Those Who Desire to Overcome Homosexuality**

Even as Jesus was quick to receive sinners and to lead them to the way of righteousness and life everlasting, so should those who claim to be His disciples. Again, the challenge will be to do it in the proper way.

(Ga 6:1-2)

(1 Corinthians 6:9-11)

### **Even if we do not convert a single soul...**

- a. We will have fulfilled our obligation to share Christ with others
- b. We will have done it in such a way as to become:
  - 1) Better Christians, a better congregation
  - 2) Better friends, better neighbors, better coworkers!

## **--FLEE EVIL COMPANIONS--**

"lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices." (2Co 2:11)

### **Get People Hooked on "THE THINGS OF THE WORLD"**

A. Regarding this device of Satan...

1. I am referring to those things described in 1Jn 2:15-17
  - a. The lust of the flesh
  - b. The lust of the eyes
  - c. The pride of life
2. Satan used these tactics against EVE - cf. Gen 3:6
3. Satan also tried these tactics in tempting Jesus - Mt 4:1-11

4. Today, Satan uses these tactics with a vengeance, tempting people through...

### **Get People to ENJOY EVIL COMPANY**

A. Regarding this device of Satan...

1. The wrong companions can defeat one's effort to do good - cf. 1Co 15:33
2. Amnon was led astray by the counsel of his "friend", Jonadab - 2Sa 13:1ff
3. Today, many Christians are hindered in their spiritual growth...

B. Our Best Defense Against it...

1. Realize the danger of the wrong companions - cf. Pr 13:20
2. Heed the advice Paul made to the Corinthians:

### **Fatherly Warning Concerning Evil Companions (Pro 1:10-19)**

A. DO NOT Consent to their advice...

B. DO NOT Walk with them...

### **The Solution to Evil Companions**

A. DON'T Listen to them...

B. Stay Away from Them...

### **True Friends and False Friends (Gal 4:16-20)**

#### **True friends say WHAT YOU NEED TO HEAR**

A. They will tell you the TRUTH...

B. You need true friends...

#### **False friends say WHAT THEY WANT YOU TO HEAR**

A. They will tell you whatever they want that benefits them...

B. You need to be aware of false friends...

## **BLURRED LINES:**

### **Blurring The Lines For Others**

*1 Peter 2:9-12*

Saturday Night Keynote Devotional

David Baldwin

#### **Introduction**

- A. We are all different. We all see things differently. Sometimes we need to work together to help each other see the “unblurred” truth.
- B. This world can and will have all kinds of obstacles.
- C. How we handle ourselves matters.

#### **We are called to be different.**

- A. We should be a light in a lost world (Matthew 5:14).
- B. How are you living before others (1Peter 2:9-10)?

#### **Can others see Jesus and His teachings in us?**

- A. Why is it so important how others see us (1 Cor. 11:1)?
- B. Our daily walk must show He is living in us (Gal. 5:22).

#### **Do we cause others to stumble?**

- A. Causing others to stumble has consequences (Matt. 8:6, Mark 9:42, Luke 17:2).
- B. Be strong for a weaker Brother or Sister (1 Cor. 8:9).
- C. Be a stepping stone not a stumbling block.

#### **Conclusion**

- A. Let us never blur the lines for others (Matt 28:19-20)!
- B. Be that light (Matt. 5:14)!
- C. Focus on things above (Phil. 4:8).

**BLURRED LINES:  
CHANGING OUR FOCUS**

*Colossians 3:1-4*

Sunday Morning Keynote Devotional

Justin Morton

**INTRODUCTION:**

- A. It's hard to live in the world without being affected by the world.
- B. If we want to live in the world without becoming like the world, we must change our focus.
- C. When I say change our focus, I mean we need to be sure we are focusing on what matters. We need to travel through this life with an eternal perspective.

**SINCE WE HAVE BEEN RAISED WITH CHRIST OUR LIVES SHOULD LOOK DIFFERENT.**

- A. When we are buried with Christ, we are raised to a newness of life (Rom. 6:3-4).
- B. As Christians, there is to be something different about our lives; it's a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 2:20).
- C. Our lives should not reflect those of the world; our lives should reflect that of Christ.

**IF WE CHANGE OUR FOCUS WE WILL CHANGE OUR DESIRES.**

- A. We seek after and desire things that we feel are important to us (Lk. 12:13-21).
- B. Our lives reflect our focus.
- C. When we change our focus, we will start seeking after things of more significance than just our physical desires.

**IF WE CHANGE OUR FOCUS WE WILL CHANGE OUR THOUGHTS.**

- A. We spend a lot of time thinking about what we desire.
- B. We are responsible for the things we think about (Phil. 4:8).
- C. If we want to change the way we live (our desires), we must change the way we think (our thoughts).

**CONCLUSION:**

- A. If we change our focus, we will change our lives.
- B. If we change our lives, we will change our eternity.
- C. Let's remember our citizenship is not of this world, it's in heaven (Phi. 3:20-21).