

# **Fire in the Belly**

## **Session 15: The Corruption of Lust**

2 Samuel 13:1-15 (selected)

*In the course of time, Amnon son of David fell in love with Tamar, the beautiful sister of Absalom son of David.*

*Amnon became frustrated to the point of illness on account of his sister Tamar, for she was a virgin, and it seemed impossible for him to do anything to her...*

*So Amnon lay down and pretended to be ill. When the king came in to see him, Amnon said to him, "I would like my sister Tamar to come in and make some special bread in my sight, so I may eat from her hand."*

*So Tamar went to the house of her brother Amnon, who was lying down. She took some dough, kneaded it, made three bread in his sight and baked it...*

*But when she took it to him to eat, he grabbed her and said, "Come to bed with me my sister."*

*"Don't, my brother!" she said to him. "Don't force me. Don't do this wicked thing!"*

*But he refused to listen to her, and since he was stronger than she, he raped her.*

*Then Amnon hated her with intense hatred. In fact, he hated her more than he had loved her. Amnon said to her, "Get up and get out!"*

### **I. Lust is the corruption of love**

- Lust is selfish
- Lust is lazy

### **II. Lust is progressive**

Matthew 5:27-29

*"You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, 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."*

- Lust begins with our eyes
- Lust moves to our minds
- Lust destroys our hearts

### III. Restoring the passion

Psalm 51 (selected)

*(v.1) Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.*

*(v. 7) Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.*

*(v. 12) Restore to me the joy of your salvation...*

- Restored through confession
  
- Restored through repentance

Proverbs 5:15-19

*Drink water from your own cistern, running water from your own well.*

*Should your streams overflow in the streets, or your streams of water in the public squares?*

*Let them be yours alone, never to be shared with strangers.*

*May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth. A loving doe, a graceful deer – may her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be captivated by her love.*

### Discussion Question

1. Let's just accept that we all struggle to some degree with "eye problems." What kinds of steps have you taken personally to establish and maintain boundaries for your eyes, mind and heart?