

CLEANING HOUSE

PART 4: LUST

INTRODUCTION: Our culture seems to blare it's misguided messages about sex through a giant megaphone. We run into lust at the mall, in our inboxes and our mailboxes, on the sides of highways, and on practically every television channel. Yet most of us have a deep sense that it was meant to be something more. Something deeper. Something truly intimate. The God-given gift of sex was meant to provide us with glue-like relational intimacy and a deep sense of satisfaction, and yet we so often find ourselves outside of His design for sex - experiencing only isolation and emptiness. Thankfully, there is life-giving hope for us all as God leads us to clean out even this very personal corner of our closets.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Read Colossians 3:5 (NLT). Paul doesn't shy away from personal and private areas of our lives. Why do you think he would so boldly call these behaviors out in his listeners' lives? How should that affect the way we approach the same issues in community with other Christians?
2. Paul uses the imagery of an enemy *lurking*, waiting to ambush us. In what ways have you seen the enemy of lust ambush the lives of others or perhaps even your own life?
3. King Asa took it upon himself as King to clean house in his kingdom (1 Kings 15). How can we practically leverage our influence in the lives of our friends, our spouses and our children to help them experience freedom from lust and sexual sin?
4. Again this week, read Psalm 139:23-24 as a prayer to God. What's in your suitcase? What needs the sledgehammer in your life? Take a few minutes to write below the practical steps you know you need to take to physically remove lust from your life and the life of your family.

Write the name of the person you will ask to walk through this with you here:

