Sermon-based Growth Group Questions "Sermon on the Mount: A Heart of Purity" Matthew 5: 27-37 February 4, 2024

Introductory Discussion: What from the sermon did you find most helpful, or eye-opening, or challenging?

- 1. Do you have levels of promises where some things you kind of promise, and other things you really promise?
 - a. What is the danger of making promises lightly?
- 2. Why should you avoid oaths and just let your "yes" be "yes," and your "no" be "no"?
 - a. What does it say about you when you have to have oaths?
- 3. When Jesus says someone has committed adultery in their heart, why does he want to make it clear that the problem is in the heart whether you act on it or not?
- 4. Covetousness is about wanting something you can't have. What does it say about your trust in God when you won't let go of something he doesn't want you to have?
- 5. If you just just say "no0" to sinful behaviors, you're not dealing with the problem in your heart. How do you get at the heart of the issue?
 - a. Verse 30 is about causes. How can you identify the root causes behind your sin and change how you think about them?
 - b. If you desire something sinful, it means that you don't see it from God's perspective on it. How can you get God's perspective?
 - c. How can that help you change your desires?
- 6. What theme connects all these examples (adultery, divorce, and not making oaths) in Jesus's sermon?

- a. How is commitment really about holiness?
- 7. How can all of these examples also be about our relationship with God?