

From Desire to Sin

Adapted from "Instruments in the Redeemers Hands" by Paul David Tripp

I Desire

These are good, God-given desires. At their basic desire, they're not sinful and that's the key in understanding idolatry. Things like love, respect, safety, security, acceptance, Godly family, marriage, children, provision for family, etc.

I Expect

A slippery slope occurs where we start thinking "I want" or "I need" these desires to be met in order to be happy, fulfilled, pleased, etc., in life. Right here, we have one foot in the world and one foot out.

I Demand

Here we say, "I must have" or "I deserve to have" my desires met. Both feet are in the sin pool now and idolatry has taken root.

**I'm
Disappointed**

Here's all the emotional energy when we don't get something that we really, really, really, really, really, really, really, did I say really? Want. We question God's character, love, and mercy and get angry, depressed, fearful, etc.

I Judge

Because idols demand a sacrifice and that we're living for our mini-kingdom, we play the judge and issue a verdict that needs to be carried out because our functional idol (desires) did not get satisfied.

I Punish

Because our idols (desires) didn't get satisfied, we say, "because you did (or did not) meet my desires, I will respond by ____." We either lash out in anger or tear down the person or we go inflict self-harm to ourselves in the form of "addiction" or other ways."

Please explore what this descent from desire to sin looks like in your life by answering each question below.



What are some examples of desire in your own life?



What do you find yourself expecting?



What demands come from your expectations?



How do people and God disappoint you?



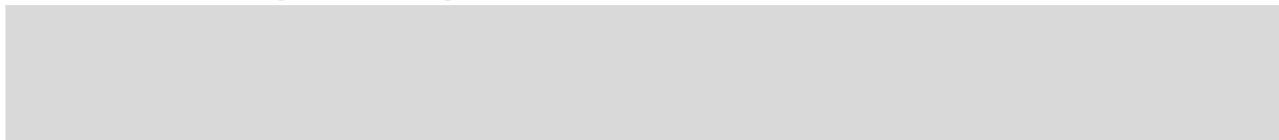
What judgments do you make of God and people?



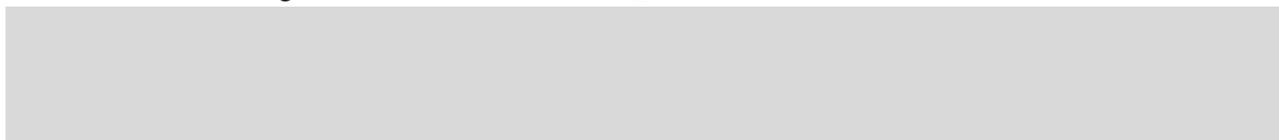
How do you punish others with sins of commission and omission?

Take a minute and think about the one or two things that have a strong grip on you and ask yourself the following questions:

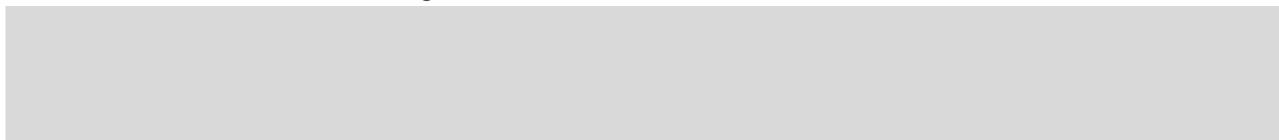
What am I willing to sin to get?



What am I willing to sin in order to keep?



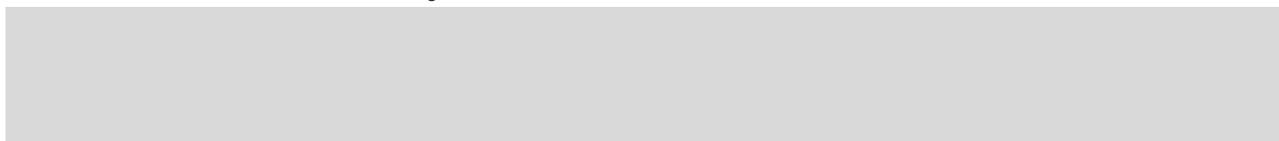
What do I run to as a refuge for comfort or peace?



On what do I spend all of my time and money?



Where is there chaos in my life?



Where am I discontent with my circumstances?

