

# DISCIPLINING DESIRE

April 22, 2018

## **KEY POINT: Winning the inner battle empowers us to face the outer struggles**

Managing our inner lives better equips us to manage our outer lives

We need to master them before they master us

"...But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to master you, but you must rule over it." Gen. 4:7

## **Text: Mark 14:32-42**

- **God's way doesn't always align with our wants**

Following God's purpose for our lives sometimes leads us to difficult places

If we don't learn to discipline our desires, we will live below the purpose for which we are created

- **Our fleshly "wantings" have the potential to overwhelm our spiritual "willings"**

Temptation: exchange the ultimate for the immediate

- **Faith gives us courage to face what's ahead in His strength**

Not abandoned in the struggle – Jesus is with us

Breaking the power of sin so we can say "NO" to temptation and "YES" to the purpose of God

## **DISCIPLINING DESIRE**

### **1. Watching – To be awake, alert, vigilant**

- a. Awareness of the inner battle
- b. Adjustments
- c. Accountability

### **2. Praying – directing our lives toward the Father**

- a. Acknowledgement
- b. Alignment with Jesus' teaching and calling
- c. Accessing heaven's resources

"No temptation as overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it." 1 Cor. 10:13

**RESPONSE:** Allow Jesus to help us discipline our desires