MESSAGE OUTLINE 5 MAY - NICK RIDDEL

THE BLESSED LIFE Part 5 - Sexual Purity

God's Blessed Vision of Sexual Holiness

Genesis 1:27-28a ESV

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it.

Genesis 2:24-25 ESV

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

Set Apart Vision

Sex and sexuality - God's design and set apart vision - blessed!

Adultery

Our world - adultery and sexual immorality.

Matthew 5:27-30 ESV

You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole

body be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

The Outside to the Inside

Matthew 15:19 ESV

For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.

<u>Avon</u>

The understanding of 'AVON' (Hebrew) – Iniquity (sin)

The Word for Lust

Lust: to have strong desire for something.

Lust (sexual) is unique, connected to the innermost parts of who we are. (1 Corinthians 6:8)

Looking with lust: a continual intentional look with desire.

<u>Gehenna</u>

The path towards death and destruction – "Gehenna"

Opening our eyes to the truth behind what we SEE.

Lust dehumanises and objectifies.

Is it the Eye or is it the Heart?

Connection, Intimacy and our Faith

Freedom

Questions for Discussion

- 1. Why do you think we don't talk about God's vision for sex and sexuality often and openly? Do we see it as blessed or as best or is it painted in a different way?
- 2. What are the consequences of not being open about it in our families and with one another? What do we leave room for? What can you change about that even from now?
- 3. What do you think about the principle behind the Hebrew word 'AVON'? Have you experienced it before in your own life?
- 4. What things were highlighted to you in your current lifestyle where there is opportunity for a sexualised culture to shape your desires or having an impact? Is there anything you feel prompted to make change towards?
- 5. The eye or the heart? Where is your relationship with God at today? Where might your heart be looking to find life and connection and intimacy in other places