



Introduction

We'll never get what we really want until we discover what is most valuable. But choosing what's valuable doesn't come naturally. We've all had the experience of getting what we naturally want, only to discover it's not what is most valuable—it's not what we *ultimately want*. But how do we avoid being deceived by our short-term desire?

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever had the experience of trying to convince someone what they wanted wasn't *really* what they wanted? What is that like?
2. Read Romans 7:15-19 Growing up, how was the internal battle between right and wrong explained to you? What terms did your parents use to describe the internal conflict?
3. How do you define the internal conflict now? What terms do you use as an adult?
4. Can you think of a time where you got what you naturally wanted and ended up with the very thing that you didn't ultimately want? Anything come to mind?
5. What are some reasons that it is difficult to prioritize what we really want ahead of our ultimate desires?
6. Read Galatians 5:19-21 Paul says this is what happens when we follow our sinful nature. What's the point in making a list like this? If this is natural-what's the problem?
7. Read James 1:14-16 When we are dragged away by desire, it's obvious what he says we are being dragged toward, but what are we being dragged away from? Have you ever had a dream or opportunity or relationship die because you were dragged away by something you wanted?

Shaping Your Mind *After desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. James 1:15-16*

Moving Forward – 3 Questions for next week – 1. What do I really want? 2. What's dragging me away? 3. How long do I plan to let what I naturally want drag me away from what I ultimately want?