**Divine Design – Model of Human Behavior 7/23/23**

**Motivation:** Foundational Need/Desire -

**Methods**: Faith & Focus

**Maturity**: Fruit & Impact

**Generally speaking**:

Are you happy, confident, content, fulfilled & able to smile & laugh at your adversities?

* What desires have you received or that you expect to? What is the happy image in your mind?

Are you miserable, afraid, frustrated, unrequited, angry/judging/blaming?

* What do you want that is being frustrated and/or you are afraid will never come to you? Image?

*What we choose to want, believe & focus on is where we are headed & what we will find when we get there*

**Motivation – Driven by Desire**

1. God made us with an emptiness within, causing us to long/crave/desire for it to be filled, & that only He can properly fill this void & that He uses desire (hunger/thirst) to bring sinners to salvation **Jn 7:37-39**
2. Hunger/thirst mismanaged: sinful man who is born cut off from God tries to fill this inner void with everything but God, attaching hunger/thirst to people & possessions **Rom 16:18, Phil 3:19**
3. Desire is neutral, a natural expression of need but prior to salvation, desire is exclusively attached to OSN (desire/lust - flesh/OSN) 🡪“human agenda” belief system of pursuing life w/out God

**Gal 5:16-17** desire attached to the OSN – human agenda – desire attached to the Spirit – fruit of Spirit

1. Holy Spirit enlightens us, reveling God and enables us to attach our desire - hunger & thirst to Him, enabling us to break free from slavery to our human agenda to give our lives to His agenda for us.

* We use our volition to choose the objects to which we attach our desires seeking fulfillment

1. **God designed our souls to be “needs based” meaning that He made us to possess inherent needs, that when fulfilled, provide a completion & satisfaction that we equate with contentment or happiness.**

**B. Pascal** – man has a God shaped hole in his heart that produces craving & longing that only God can fill

**John 7:37-39** Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If any man is **thirsty** (desire), let him come to Me and drink. 38 "He who believes in me, as the Scripture said, 'from his **innermost being** (***koilos*** – empty place) shall flow rivers of living water.'" 39 But this He spoke of the Spirit …….

* **Jesus** - hunger & thirst **Mt 5:6** hunger & thirst for +R; **Jn 6:35** Bread of life – never hunger or thirst
* **Living water** - **Jer 2:13, 17:13** thirsty - Christ is fountain of living water; **Jn 4:10** woman at the well was thirsty for living water; **Jn 7** those thirsty for God, come & drink – HS & rivers of living water flowing out

1. We begin with an unsatisfied longing, don’t know how to fulfill, intended to ultimately lead us to God
2. We use our volition to choose, learning from wrong choices that fail to satisfy us, finally arriving at God
3. Desire is God’s tool to drive you to seek for fulfillment that only He can provide – desire is your friend.
4. **Hunger/Thirst attached to OSN (lascivious/ascetic) & world produces temp gratification & idolatry, leads to a process of ever increasing degeneration & diminishing satisfaction of soul’s longings**

* Child sex slavery & porn, organ/blood harvest & child sacrifice in the news – how do they get that evil?

**Rom 16:18** (those causing divisions) or such men are slaves, not of our Lord Christ but of their own **appetites**; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting.

* Divisions – those who live for short term gratification use others instead of giving to edify them
* Appetites – (***koilos)*** emptiness attached OSN = desire for ever increasing, dissatisfying carnal pleasures
* **Slaves** to sinful pleasures: lascivious lust; ascetic lust: self right, judging, critical, controlling, religious

**Philippians 3:19** (.vs 18 enemies of the cross of Christ) whose end is destruction, **whose god is *their* appetites,** and *whose* glory is in their shame, who **set their minds on earthly things.**

* Appetites (***koilos***) = desire is god they worship & serve – increasing degeneracy + less & less gratification
* Attach emptiness (thirst) to OSN/world = frantic misery, overwhelming shame, ruin & sin unto death

1. **Gen 3:6** Eve w/out OSN attached her desire for wisdom to the fruit - desirable to make one wise
2. **Gen 4:7** even the process of sinful degeneration is described as a predator desiring to violently eat us
3. **Jam 4:2** You lust & have not – murder, envious & can’t have – fights, wrong motive of self indulgence
4. **Rom 1:18-32** reject God, leads to degeneracy 🡪 desire becomes unrestrained toward any/all objects
5. **Jam 1:14** desire attached to OSN – temptation; **2Pt 1:4** desire attached to OSN – corrupts the world
6. **1Jn 2:16** lust/desire of the flesh, desires of the eyes, boastful pride of biological life

**Numbing Emotions – Denial**

**Eph 4:19** bel’s in reversionism, pursuing lascivious/ascetic lust end up emotionally numb – defense mech.

* There is never fulfillment from attaching our desires by believing in people & circumstances, only disappointment and heartache – when we refuse to turn to the Lord we have to numb emotion
* Legit desire + faith in people & circumstances = unrealistic expectations 🡪 failure, pain 🡪 numb
* Bel’s can’t be sensitive to the Spirit when they have locked up their souls behind protective strongholds

1. **Primarily, what makes desire good, sinful or evil is the object to which we have attached our desires**.
2. Greek ***epithumia – epithumeo*** intense desire - it is used for desire to sin & desire to do God’s will

**Gal 5:16-17** But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire (***epithumia***) of the flesh. **17** For the flesh sets its desire (***epithumia***) against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you intend.

1. Both OSN & Holy Spirit are either chosen objects of our desire or are each producing the same desire
2. **Lk 22:15** – Jesus uses ***epithumia*** of His desire to eat the Passover – same ***epithumia*** is a good desires
3. **Phil 1:23** Paul desires to be with the Lord; **1Thes 2:17** he desires to be with the members of the church
4. **1Tim 6:9** determined to be rich/ministry – temptation, trap & many foolish & hurtful desires
5. **Tit 3:3** foolish, disobedient & deceived, enslaved by desires & pleasures, filled with malice, envy & hate

**Normal Desires attached to God’s or world’s provisions determine if we are in or out of God’s will**

* Sexual desire pursued within marriage – sexual desire pursued outside of marriage
* Desire to be accepted = beloved in Christ – pursue by human effort & self-promotion in the world
* Desire for approval & praise realized in Christ – pursued from people based on worldly values

*Every legitimate need/desire that we will ever have was provided for in Christ the moment we were saved*

1. **Ministry of the Spirit encourages us to reject desire for our human agenda (success, wealth) while attaching our hunger/thirst to God & His plan, believing that you already have what you need**
2. Lust/flesh – lascivious & ascetic pleasures; human agenda = earthly plan to find +H apart from God

* Your belief & priority is seen in what you do, spend your time, emphasize, where emotions tied

1. **Jn 7:37-39** God is our primary & necessary need with right relating with people as secondary
2. **Mt 6:19-21** Jesus – stop pursuing earthly treasures, instead pursue heavenly treasures
3. Dare to come out from your self-protective walls feel hunger/thirst - open/risk your heart again but this time give your heart to the Lord, not another flawed person who can’t help but let you down.

**Mt 5:6** hunger/thirst for righteousness; **Mt 6:33** seek first His kingdom and righteousness and the other things you need will be given to you – pursue love/Lord and your other loves will prioritize properly

1. **Desire is God’s plan – to allow yourself to hunger/thirst so that you end up pursuing fulfillment and discover that it can only be found in Him and that He desires for you to desire Him – love relationship**

**Mat 19:27** Then Peter answered and said to Him, "Behold, we have left everything and followed you; what then will there be for us?"

* Disciples didn’t give up their human, earthly agenda because of duty – **Followed Him** **out of desire**
* Paul endured every known adversity to preach the gospel all over the world out of passion & desire

1. God didn’t call Christians to play it safe, seek safety & security, fit in to avoid offending everyone
2. Christians in USA are focused on their human agenda – fit in, go along to get along – stay numb
3. In Christ we are safe, we are secure in every possible way so that we can let it rip & let it fly
4. Dare to awaken the desire in you, attach yourself to the Spirit & learn God’s word so that you know who you are pursuing and live for Him.