



Dr. John Street, chair and professor of biblical counseling at The Master's University, has written an excellent aid for counselors and those who struggle with ensnaring sexual sins. Though much has been written on the topic in our day, Dr. Street's book, *Passions of the Heart*, avoids the pitfalls of many on this subject. He does not offer simplistic answers or a cursory discussion on the human heart. Rather, Dr. Street spends significant time teaching the reader what Scripture says about the human heart, idolatry, and remaining sin in the believer. The strength of this book is the close inspection of what is happening in the heart entangled in immorality.

The subject and maybe even the size of this book can seem daunting; however, it can serve many in our body well. If you are know or have the opportunity to counsel someone struggling with these sins, this book is a great aid. If you desire to better understand idols in your own heart of a different nature, this book can help. And if you have struggled personally in the past or find yourself in the midst of fighting these hard-to-win battles with sexual sin, then you should read this book.

— Omri Miles, Deacon of the booktable

### QUOTES

"The biblical view of the heart is difference from society's emotion/romantic view. It involves intentions, lusts, cravings, purposes, plans, and thoughts. Out of the outgrowth of these, your heart then determines your behavior."

"Your thought life reveals what you worship, what controls your passions, thereby revealing what you love the most."

"Covetousness is at the root of all sexual sin, and it produces in the heart new and refined idols."

"Because the heart and its ruling motivations are so complex, it stands to reason that multiple overlapping desires could be at work at the same time."

"All people have a desire to be loved and adored, but believers who have an unusually demanding appetite for approval are special prey to the flattery of the sexually attractive."

"[Grace] serves an instructional and strengthening function—grace is the counselee's best trainer."

### Suggested One-Month Reading Plan (about 9 pages per day)

#### Week 1: Monday, the 4<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, the 10<sup>th</sup>

Preface

#### Part 1: The Nature of the Heart and Its Passions

1. Preparing the Heart for Change
2. Heart Idolatry and Sexuality
3. HeartIdolatry and Sexual Enslavement

#### Week 2: Monday, the 11<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, the 17<sup>th</sup>

4. Heart Idolatry and Deep Passions

#### Part 2: The Motivations of Sexual Idolatry

5. Consoling the Hurting Idols of Passion

#### Week 3: Monday, the 18<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, the 24<sup>th</sup>

#### Part 3: The Characteristics of a Pure Heart

6. Feeding the Hungering Idols of Passion
7. A Biblical Stress Test

#### Week 4: Monday, the 25<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

8. Critical Prerequisites of a Pure Heart

9. The Sources of Purity for the Pure Heart

10. The Sexual Desire of the Pure Heart

Conclusion