

## Study Guide #2- “Not the way it’s Supposed to be”

### Chapter 3 → Perversion, Pollution, and disintegration

#### 1/ What does it mean to pervert something?

- *Review question from last week* → What does it mean to be human? In other words, what is the purpose or goal of our existence?
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- How has sin perverted what it means to be human?
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- If sin has indeed twisted or turned us away from our intended purpose, why is it dangerous to follow our hearts?
  
- What was your favorite illustration of how sin perverts our thinking and judgement from the chapter?

#### 2/ What does Plantinga mean by spiritual pollution?

- How does sin pollute?
  
- Where do you see this in Scripture?
  - In contrast to pollution, what does it mean to have a pure heart?
  
- How does this idea of having your soul polluted sit with you?

#### 3/ Take a look at Sylvia Fraser’s story of her dad on page 46. How does this story show the danger and shortcomings of “compartmentalizing” our sin?

- How does our sin, our corruption, lead to and produce death? Is this always the case?
  
- How does sins perversion, pollution, and corruption play into the regularity of mass shootings we see in our country?

#### 4/ How is repentance and renewal different than compartmentalization?

- What should you do if you see this pattern in your own life?

### Chapter 4 → The progress of Corruption

Notes: Chief metaphor that he returns to is: “The heart wants what the heart wants.”

Sin doesn’t make sense.

## **1/ Why do we sin?**

→ What causes us to give into temptation instead of resisting it?

## **2/ What are some of the factors that shape our sin tendencies?**

Context, motivation, patterns (Sow/Reaping)

**1→Context→** How does sin have a rippling effect in social groups, like families?

-How does “culture” shape/train our longings? Cigarettes/ sugar tax... public shaming. Twitter.

-Consider this paragraph from Seattle Mag...

**2→Let’s talk a bit about motivation→**Why does Plantinga argue that there is no one more dangerous than a victim?

→**Pattern**—How does the biblical pattern of “you reap what you sow” come to play in all of this?

→ How is motivation, context, and cause related?

## **3/ Why do we sometimes give into temptation while other times we stand underneath it?**

→ Why do our attempts to rationalize sin always fail?

## **4/ Given this web of corruption, how do we seek spiritual hygiene, spiritual health when so much is against us? What hope do we have?**

→ How do we get new hearts?