

1. New homework #1 – Learning to tame curiosity

-**See curiosity as a gift of God that can be used for evil or for good.** Thank God for that gift. But understand what curiosity is about and when it goes over into sin

Kinds of curiosity

- a. Perceptual curiosity – surprise when something doesn't fit with expectations (Moses and burning bush)
 - b. Epistemic curiosity – the desire to explore drives all scientific research (Is. 28:23-29)
 - c. Specific curiosity – internet search for an answer (Job 29:16)
 - d. Research curiosity – (Prov. 2:4; 25:2; Eccl. 1:13)
 - e. Diversive curiosity – wards off boredom. Often dangerous
 - f. Morbid curiosity – leads to search even though we were warned that it is dangerous
 - g. Curiosity outside our jurisdiction (2 Cor. 12:4)
 - gossip – wanting to know about other people's sins and activities
 - curiosity about other people's private lives, such as what their sexual experiences are like.
 - snooping in an adult's room, or in someone's filing cabinets.
 - h. Gossip – wanting to know about others sins
- **Turn curiosity from a right into a responsibility.** (Part of the rights homework sheet.)
- **Putting on good curiosity:** Develop curiosity for the things that you are currently lazy on. Ask questions such as, "Why would God want me to know that?" (I.e., how does this doctrine apply to real life?), "Does the Bible address this problem?" "Have others successfully faced this problem and overcome?" Let it spur creativity, innovation.
 - **Putting off bad curiosity:** Identify every time you have inner urges of curiosity to know something you shouldn't. What would it feel like to _____? I wonder what so-and-so is doing?
 - Give yourself homework that will control 1) your eyes and 2) your imagination. **For eyes:** It could be disciplining yourself to not look at something legitimate (pile of leaves, billboard, a tear in someone's clothing, etc) or it could be disciplining your eyes to not look at parts of people that you are sinfully curious about.
 - For imagination:** It could be turning off idle wandering of your thoughts that are undisciplined, and discipline your mind to pray rightly, think rightly, and plan rightly. We must gain discipline of our thinking. It could involve putting off the negative and meditating on Scripture from homework #1.
- **Use quadrant to evaluate your curiosity (rules, appropriate outcome, motives/station in life/age, situation)**