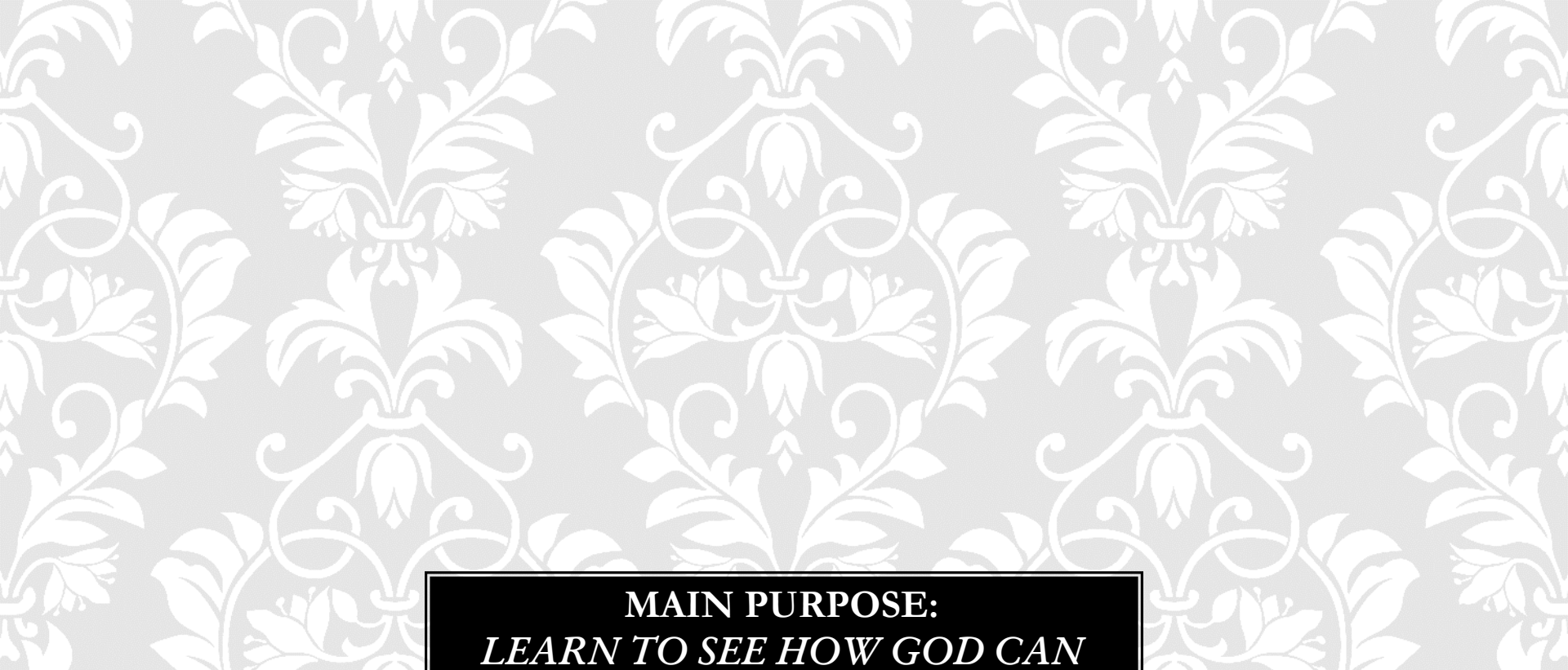




**GENDER DESIGN
& REDEMPTION**

grad & career spring '11



MAIN PURPOSE:
*LEARN TO SEE HOW GOD CAN
USE YOUR DESIRES TO POINT
YOU TO CHRIST*



**WHY LISTENING TO OUR
DESIRES IS LEGITIMATE**

**TRADITIONAL CONCEPT ON
SPIRITUAL FORMATION
(INFLUENCED BY RATIONALISM)**

Orthodoxy
(mind)

Orthopraxis
(behavior)

Orthopathos
(emotions)

**FULLER CONCEPT OF SPIRITUAL
FORMATION (INFLUENCED BY
HOLISTIC THOUGHT)**

Orthopathos
(Right Feeling)

Orthopraxy
(Right Doing)

Orthodoxy
(Right
Thinking)

TOTAL DEPRAVITY

“By this sin they fell from their original righteousness and communion, with God, and so became dead in sin, and wholly defiled in all the parts and faculties of soul and body.” -

Westminster Confession of Faith

JOHN ELDREDGE
THE JOURNEY OF DESIRE

“We try food, tennis, television, or sex, going from one thing to another, never quite finding satisfaction. The reason we don’t know what we want is that we’re so unacquainted with our desire. We try to keep a safe distance between our daily lives and our heart’s desire because it causes us so much trouble. We’re surprised by our anger and threatened by what feels like a ravenous bear within us. Do we really want to open Pandora’s box?”

SHERYL CROW
SOAK UP THE SUN

“It's not having what you want
It's wanting what you've got”

ALFRED LORD TENNYSON

“Tis better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all.”



**DESIRE:
A BIBLICAL REVIEW**

NEW TESTAMENT “DESIRES”

“Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don’t let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil *desires*.” – Romans 13:14

(the noun “desire” often paired with a negative adjective to describe “sinful desire”)

NEW TESTAMENT “DESIRE”

“Brothers and sisters, my heart’s *desire* and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved.” – Romans 10:1

(the verb “desire” often used to positively describe passionately “desiring” something good and of God)

OLD TESTAMENT “DESIRE/S”

⁵ “If my house were not right with God,
surely he would not have made with me an everlasting covenant,
arranged and secured in every part;
surely he would not bring to fruition my salvation
and grant me my every *desire*.”

– King David’s last words in 2 Samuel 23:5

(the noun “desire” often used to describe God fulfilling our “desires”)

¹⁷ You, LORD, hear the *desire* of the afflicted;
you encourage them, and you listen to their cry,
¹⁸ defending the fatherless and the oppressed,
so that mere earthly mortals
will never again strike terror.

– Psalm 10:17-18

² Praise the LORD, my soul,
and forget not all his benefits—
³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
⁴ who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
⁵ who satisfies your *desires* with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

– Psalm 103:2-5

Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the *desires* of
your heart.

– Psalm 37:4 (NIV)

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Do you passionately “desire” good and God?
- Do you allow God to be the fulfillment of your desires?

REDEEMING “DESIRE”

²⁰ Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ Wherever your treasure is, there the *desires* of your heart will also be.

– Matthew 6:20-21

⁸ Yes, LORD, walking in the way of your laws,
we wait for you;
your name and renown
are the *desire* of our hearts.

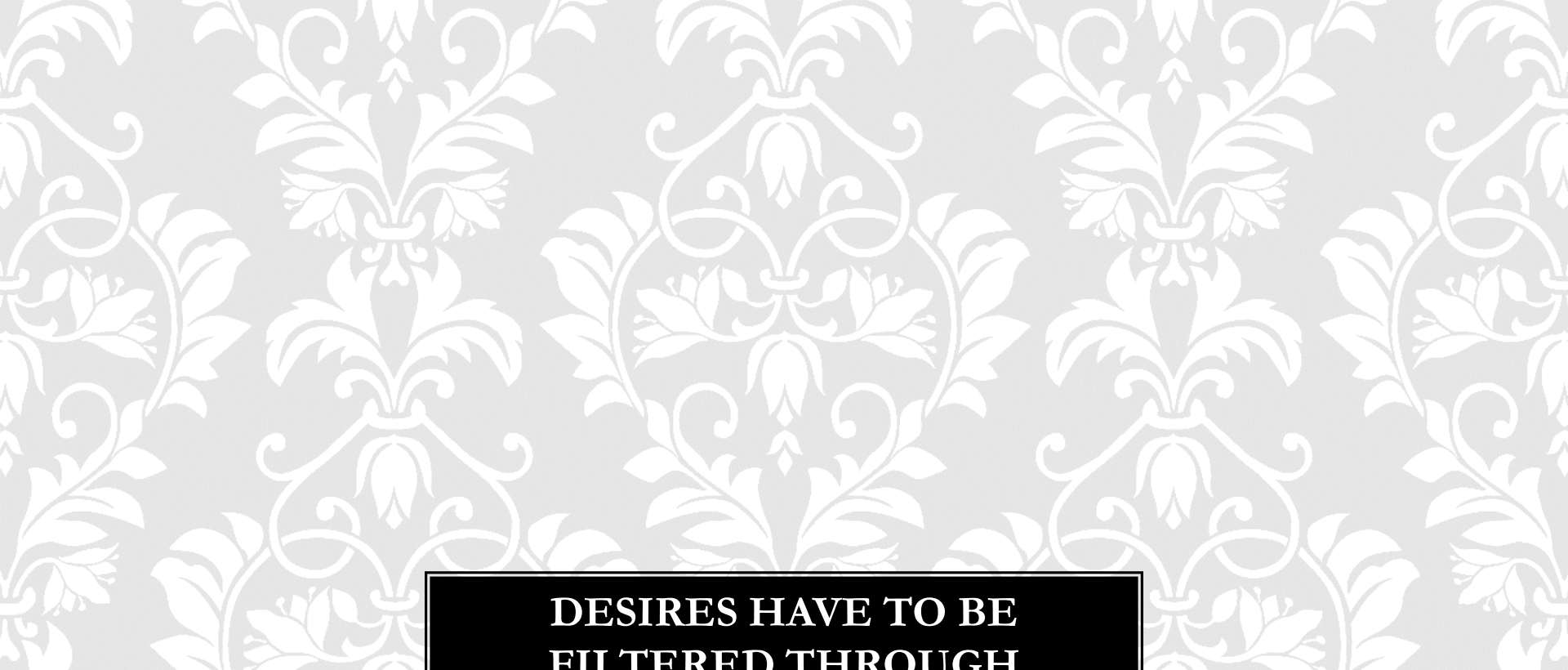
⁹ My soul yearns for you in the night;
in the morning my spirit longs for you.

When your judgments come upon the earth,
the people of the world learn righteousness. – Isaiah 26:8-9

¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ Instead, they were *longing* for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them. - Hebrews 11:15-16

¹⁷ The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” Let anyone who hears this say, “Come.” Let anyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who *desires* drink freely from the water of life.

– Revelation 22:17



**DESIRES HAVE TO BE
FILTERED THROUGH
SCRIPTURE**

CS LEWIS

“The books or the music in which we thought the beauty was located will betray us if we trust to them; it was not *in* them, it only came *through* them, and what came through them was longing. These things – the beauty, the memory of our own past – are good images of what we really desire; but if they are mistaken for the thing itself, they turn in dumb idols, breaking the hearts of the worshipers. For they are not the thing itself; they are only the scent of a flower we have not found, the echo of a tune we have not heard, news from a country we have never yet visited.”

**PREVIEW QUESTION FOR NEXT
TWO WEEKS**

As you look back on your whole life from childhood till now, what desires, big or small, seem to be generally more common to your gender?

