

HOW TO GET what you *really* want

PART 2: Don't Be Deceived

INTRODUCTION

We'll never get what we really want until we discover what is most valuable. But choosing what's valuable doesn't come naturally. We've all had the experience of getting what we naturally want, only to discover it's not what is most valuable—it's not what we *ultimately* want. But how do we avoid being deceived by our short-term desires?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Romans 7:15-19 aloud as a group. Growing up, how was the internal battle between right and wrong explained to you? What terms did your parents use to describe that internal conflict?
2. How do you define that internal conflict now? What terms do you use as an adult?
3. "*We've all gotten what we naturally wanted and ended up with the very thing we didn't ultimately want.*" Does anything come to mind?
4. What are some reasons it's difficult for us to prioritize what we really want ahead of our immediate desires?
5. Read James 1:14 aloud as a group. Describe a time when you were dragged away by desire. It's obvious what we are dragged *toward*, but what were you dragged away *from*?
6. Read James 1:15 aloud as a group. Have you ever had a dream, relationship, or opportunity die because you were dragged away by something you wanted?

MOVING FORWARD

What we *naturally* want is rarely what we *ultimately* want. Commit as a group to answer the questions posed at the end of the message:

1. What do I really want?
2. What's dragging me away?
3. How long do I plan to let what I naturally want drag me away from what I ultimately want?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters.

James 1:15-16