

“So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don’t be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world.” Colossians 3:5 NLT

## lectio // Colossians 3:5-11

Kill, kill, kill - sex, sex, sex. Sounds like a modern Netflix drama. The Apostle Paul hits things hard. “Earthly” things that are lurking. You bet they’re lurking, it’s woven into our DNA. The fight, the struggle is real. For me, as a man, this list is not only in my DNA, it’s in my bloodstream, known as Testosterone! I’m not saying the “sex” list is not sinful. I am saying that it is a constant war fought in a world filled with billboards, media ads, spammed emails, and Instagram invites. There is no longer a safe place to put your eyes! Lurking? They are no longer lurking in the dark, they are boldly broadcasting 24/7. But, Paul is STILL right, they need to go. Interestingly, he tags GREED right alongside a list of moral no-no’s. Then hits that hard too. Greed is IDOLATRY! There’s a Christian bumper sticker for our Orange County community. These are “former” things Paul? These are issues that were settled? Hmmm, feels just as real today as when I first believed. Am I not growing in this struggle with my past?

## oratio

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

I know I am not who I used to be, but neither am I who I want to be. Sin is still a very real existence in me, so I am thankful for repentance, mercy and forgiveness. I am thankful that my perfection is not in my performance, rather it is in my faith in Jesus, who is perfect. And my sin, although real, is not eternally deadly when I am hidden in Christ.

## contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root