

**A BUNCH OF THINGS YOU SHOULD DO:**

1. Sit closer to the front on Sunday morning to keep back seats open to our guests. ☺
2. Registration for AWAKE, one-day women's retreat, opens March 25<sup>th</sup>. Event is April 14<sup>th</sup>.
3. Good Friday Gathering @ Freshwater, March 30<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm.
4. Groups are on break after this week. We start back up the week of April 8<sup>th</sup>.

**OPEN IN PRAYER**

**WARM UP:** What is your favorite food? What is your least favorite food?

**RECAP:** This week in our series, **"THE 7 DEADLY SINS,"** the deadly sin we discussed was **"GLUTTONY."** The big idea was, **"Gluttony seeks excess to fill emptiness."** The word gluttony comes from the Latin word "gluttire," meaning to gulp down. Gluttony is an inordinate desire to consume more than that which one requires. But is it really that deadly of a sin? If so, how?

1. Take a moment to discuss what from Sunday's sermon encouraged or challenged you.
2. The attitude of gluttony can apply to many different areas of life, not only food. Take a moment to discuss what impresses you most about the ways our culture **"SEEKS EXCESS."**
  - a. We could all agree that it's gotten out of hand... how/why do you suppose so?

**EXCESS: HAGGAI 1:5-6** *"Now this is what the Lord Almighty says: **"Give careful thought to your ways. 6 You have planted much, but harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it."***

1. **"Give careful thought to your ways."** Considering this verse, on a scale of 1-10, rate and discuss how this verse applies to your life (past and/or present).
  - a. How did it affect your life and faith?

**EMPTINESS: 2 CORINTHIANS 12:10** *"That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."*

1. Our hope is to identify the areas of weakness and emptiness, and to "delight" in it by understanding Christ is our strength. But first, take a moment to discuss any areas of YOUR life where you feel weakness and emptiness. Why do you think you have become weak in that area?

**APPLICATION: PSALM 34:8-10** *"O taste and see that the Lord is good; How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him! 9 O fear the Lord, you His saints; For to those who fear Him there is no want. 10 The young lions do lack and suffer hunger; But they who seek the Lord shall not be in want of any good thing."*

1. The bible gives many analogous pictures of our faith being like 'eating.' Having an appetite for God is important, but it takes a belief that **"THE LORD IS GOOD."** In an effort to encourage each other in this truth, take a moment to share YOUR experience in what this verse describes.
2. How can you put this into practice in your life?

**CLOSE IN PRAYER:** As you close in prayer be encouraged to share ANYTHING you desire prayer for, as well as anything specifically relating to today's discussion.