



# Drastic Means to a Desired End

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**Matthew 5:27-30 (NLT) - The words of Jesus...** "You have heard the commandment that says, 'You must not commit adultery.' But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. So, if your eye—even your good eye—causes you to lust, ***gouge it out and throw it away***. It is better for you to ***lose one part of your body*** than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your hand—even your stronger hand—causes you to sin, ***cut it off and throw it away***. It is better for you to ***lose one part of your body*** than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

## Minor Correction produces Minimal Change

**Matthew 5:27-30 (LB) - The words of Jesus...** "The laws of Moses said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say: Anyone who even looks at a woman with lust in his eye has already committed adultery with her in his heart. So, if your eye—even if it is your best eye! — causes you to lust, ***gouge it out and throw it away***. Better for ***part of you to be destroyed*** than for all of you to be cast into hell. And if your hand—even your right hand—causes you to sin, ***cut it off and throw it away***. Better that than find yourself in hell."

## Radical Choices Bring Real Changes

**1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (NIV)** Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? ***Run in such a way as to get the prize.*** <sup>25</sup> Everyone who competes in the games goes into ***strict training***. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. <sup>26</sup> Therefore I do not run like someone running ***aimlessly***; I do not fight like a boxer ***beating the air***. <sup>27</sup> No, ***I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave*** so that after I have preached to others, I myself ***will not be disqualified*** for the prize.

## Wussy Effort Leads to Wimpy Effects

**1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (LB)** In a race everyone runs, but only one person gets first prize. So, ***run your race to win***. To win the contest you must ***deny yourselves many things that would keep you from doing your best***. An athlete ***goes to all this trouble*** just to win a blue ribbon or a silver cup, but we do it for a heavenly reward that never disappears. So, I ***run straight to the goal with purpose in every step. I fight to win***. I'm ***not just shadow-boxing or playing around***. Like an athlete ***I punish my body, treating it roughly, training it to do what it should, not what it wants to***. Otherwise, I fear that after enlisting others for the race, I myself ***might be declared unfit and ordered to stand aside***.

## Gold Medal Training Gets Gold Medal Results

# Extreme Measures that Enable Extensive Modification

## These Drastic Measures Fully Honour God in Your Recovery!

1. **Amputate Causes of Failure** - Cut out anything that leads to compromise. TV - Gone! Internet - Gone! Social Media - Gone! Sport Illustrated - Gone! Movies - Gone! Netflix - Gone! Got the hint?
2. **Assassinate Lame Excuses** - Absorb Full Responsibility for your past poor choices and actions. Don't blame, justify, minimize, explain away, defend or any other form of alibis. Own it.
3. **Annihilate Online Access** - Maybe you can't handle it. Maybe if Covenant Eyes is not sufficient to deter you that go EXTREME! Become a flip-phone guy for a season as needed.
4. **Arrest Runaway Emotions** - Know your trigger feelings: rejection, failure, criticism, lonely, tired, whatever. Face all alone times with wisdom and a plan.
5. **Ambush Wayward Glances** - Your eyes belong to Jesus! Stop all 2<sup>nd</sup> looks! Treat younger women as sisters with absolute purity! Make a covenant with your eyes to not look lustfully
6. **Alienate the Wrong Crowd** - Run with those who will respect and support your journey. Run away from those who will cause you to stumble or downplay your stand for purity before God and man.
7. **Avoid Tempting Places** - What are you thinking? No sex establishments with the boys. No stags with "guests". Avoid parties. Stay out of bars. Change restaurants. Change lunch hours.
8. **Account Your Whereabouts** - Volunteer where you are going always! Share your plans. There's no privacy warranted. No secrets kept. Use phone tracking so your wife knows where you are.
9. **Abolish Your Slavery to Sin** - Being Soft on Sin is Hard on Your Heart. Your addiction is offensive to God. Eradicate don't entertain what entangles you! Attack sin with drastic measures.
10. **Attack Step Work** - It's called WORK for a reason! Do all 12 Steps THOROUGHLY! Half-hearted Effort leads to hapless change. Long-term commitment leads to Lasting change

## RECOVERY WILL COST YOU ONE WAY OR ANOTHER!

There's a price to pay for freedom - There's a price to pay for foolishness!

**You choose!**