

# Toxic

## Toxic Influences (Wk.2)

### LifeGroup Notes

## TALK IT OVER

### Main Idea

Instead of seeing how close you can get to the line—rather ask yourself, “How close can I stay to God?”

### Key Scriptures

*Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.*  
Proverbs 4:23

*Test everything. Hold on to the good. Avoid every kind of evil.*  
1 Thess. 5:21-22

### Three things to remember:

1. A LITTLE BIT OF POISON GOES A LONG WAY.  
(1 Cor. 5:6-7)
2. JUST BECAUSE EVERYONE DOES IT, DOESN'T MAKE IT RIGHT.  
(Rom. 12:2 MSG)
3. JUST BECAUSE I COULD, DOESN'T MEAN I SHOULD. (1 Cor. 6:12)

### Questions to ask yourself:

- Am I being entertained by sin?
- Is this pleasing to God?
- Does this lure me away from Christ?

### Start talking.

- What are your top two funny movies? (Be honest.)
- What about them makes you laugh?
- Are there scenes others would find offensive?
- What do you find toxic in today's media?  
(Ex: subject matter, language, etc.)

### Start thinking.

- How do you decide which influences you will let in to your heart and head?
- Is holiness in thought and action a reasonable expectation?
- How do we remain “in the world, but not of it?”

### Start sharing.

- Read Proverbs 4:23. If everything you do flows from your heart, what does that demonstrate to others is the condition of your heart?
- In 1 Thess. 5:21-22 Paul challenges us to “Avoid every kind of evil.” How is this possible?
- Where have you “given ground” when it comes to guarding your heart? What does it look like to shore that area back up?

### Start doing. (These can be sensitive, so be gracious with each other.)

- List one area you have been allowing sin to entertain you. How can you cut that out this week?
- Now that you've removed a toxic influence, how will you replace it with something that is pleasing to God?
- Have your actions inadvertently led others away from Christ? If so, how will you address that this week?

### Close in prayer.

Toxic influences are everywhere. Every type of media we engage with is trying to push some degree of unhealthy ideas into our hearts and minds. As you close in prayer for one another remember not to judge someone based on your own “fences”. Grace and mercy are bigger words than we can begin to understand. Encourage one another and commit to being a positive Christ-like influence for those God brings into your life.