

## **What God Hates**

*Proverbs 6:16-19*

**Introduction:** As Steve mentioned on Sunday, there is often a correlation between the things we love and the things we hate. All of us have heard others say something to the effect, "I hate that team" when speaking of their team's arch rival. Because they love their team so deeply, they hate their rival. A similar thing is true of God. Because He loves certain things, there are other things that God hates. Today, we are going to look at a passage of Scripture that mentions seven things that God hates. May we grow to be people who love what God loves and hate what God hates.

**Opening Discussion:** What is one pet peeve of yours? And why is it pet peeve?

### **Read Proverbs 6:16-19**

1. What are the seven things that this passage says that God hates?
2. Is there anything that surprises you about this list?
3. Why do you think God hates these things?
4. Are there any of these things that God hates that you feel drawn to discuss further?

Steve suggested several points of application for us if we see any of these seven things in our lives. Steve said:

First, don't panic. If you are a believer in Jesus and there is something in your life that God hates, that doesn't mean that God hates you. There really is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus – none. God isn't shocked that you feel fully justified in telling "little white lies." God isn't taken off guard because you spend time thinking of all the nasty things you would have said to someone if you could do it all over again. Don't panic if you notice things in your life that God hates. He can hate those things and still love you.

5. Is it hard to believe that God can hate sin in your life, but still love you?

6. Read Romans 8:1. What does this passage say about this issue?

Steve said:

Second, confess your sin to God. In other words, come clean; apologize to God for what you've thought, said, or done. Be as honest and specific as you can possibly be. Remember that sin isn't some violation of a regulation buried away in the Bible. Sin is a personal offense against God. His heart aches when we choose to do things He has warned us against. Confession isn't a punishment; it's a gift that allows us to go to God for cleansing.

7. Why do you think it is important to be as specific as you can be when confessing sin to God?

8. What is the difference between seeing our sin as a "violation of a regulation" as opposed to seeing it as an "offense against God"?

9. Do you tend to think of confession as a gift? Why or why not?

10. Steve's final two points of application were to learn to hate what God hates and to learn to love what God loves. How can we do this?