

October 16, 2022

## Commandment 7

Large Group 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade

Ice breaker 5-10 min

Worship 10-15 min

Volunteer plug 5 min

Lesson (15 min)

### Review

- What commandments have we done so far?
  - Have no other God's before me
  - Do not have idols
  - Do not use the Lord's name in vain
  - Sabbath
  - Honor your father and mother
  - Do not murder
- Last week you discussed not murdering others.
  - We saw Jesus raise the bar on the understanding of what that means. Does anyone recall how Jesus raised the bar on the 6<sup>th</sup> commandment, thou shall not murder?
    - [Matthew 5:21-26](#) 22 But I say, if you are even angry with someone, you are subject to judgment! If you call someone an idiot, you are in danger of being brought before the court. And if you curse someone, you are in danger of the fires of hell.

## Commandment 7

- [Deuteronomy 5:18](#)
  - Adultery Defined by the world – having an intimate relationship while you are married with someone you are not married to.
- If we are not married, what does this commandment have to do with us?
  - Any relationship you have right now is not within the context of marriage and should be treated as such
- Raising the bar...again
  - Jesus is at the Sermon on the Mount, just after discussing murder.
  - Like murder and anger addressed last week, he is addressing this because it is a common, devastating problem.
  - [Matthew 5:27-28](#) "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her <sup>heart</sup> in his heart."
  - What is lust? To look at someone lustfully is to look at them with a sexual desire in your heart.
    - We see some parallels from the 6<sup>th</sup> commandment to this commandment
      - Murder and adultery were both punishable by death at that time
      - Both were (and often are) thought to be physical acts

- Jesus says they both are also acts in your heart or mind
  - So what do we do about it?
    - Be intentional about relationships and the situations you place yourself or others in
      - You do NOT need to date, marriage is a blessing, being single is a blessing
        - 1 Corinthians 7:32-35
      - The way you dress and act matters
        - Do not cause another to stumble
      - Avoid temptation
        - If the way we think matters, controlling thoughts means avoiding temptation. That may look like staying offline, deleting your social media account, or a variety of other actions.
      - If you choose to date, do it with the Bible in mind
        - Date someone equally yoked, if you would not marry them, do not date them
        - [2 Corinthians 6:14](#)
        - Why does this matter?
          - Much more likely to decrease faith/go astray than to have the other person find God.
          - We should marry people with the same view of the world. The Bible is a guide to marriage, raising kids, and life in general. Having a relationship with someone with different beliefs is like playing a game with a different set of rules.

## Small Group Questions-any group

What are some of the similarities between Commandment 6 (murder) and 7 (adultery)?

Thoughts we have are often unintentional, if a thought can be sinful, how do we control it?

[Avoid temptation, repent and turn away from the thought to God, pray, if a lustful thought perhaps pray for the wellbeing of the person you are thinking of]

According to 1 Corinthians 7:32-35 what are the benefits to remaining single?

[look up verse, ask if there are others outside of that]

The potential to use our bodies for glorifying God is emphasized in [1 Thessalonians 4:3-5](#): *“For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in*

*sanctification and honor, not ~~set~~ in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God.”*

We can see God’s grace all around, the act of adultery is no exception. One of the great examples of forgiveness in the bible occurs around the topic of adultery. In [John 7:53-8:11](#) a woman caught in adultery.

- Does Jesus’ forgiveness mean this sin was minor?
  - No. He states, go forth and sin no more.
- This woman is forgiven by Jesus, did she deserve it?
  
- What are some observations about those who did not stone her?
  - Older left first, perhaps wiser
  - No one was without sin
  - Until that, likely were willing to stone her
  
- Any other observations?

### Small Group Questions ONLY HIGH SCHOOL

How do you avoid lust in your life?

Read [1 Corinthians 6:16-20](#)

We are bought with a price, what does that mean?

How do you think sexual sin affects our bodies in ways that are different than other sins?

What did Paul mean when he warned against being joined together as 1 with a prostitute? Is this specific to a prostitute, or is this any sexual relationship?

[Being joined together is a promise that leads to a fulfilling marriage relationship. Having sex outside of marriage creates a bond that is not intended. It does not matter if the person in this scenario is married or not, that bond is created]

What are other consequences to sex outside of marriage that are not listed? Maybe practical consequences as well as spiritual?

[STDs, unplanned pregnancy, broken relationships, sin separates us from God]

What does it look like to honor God with our bodies?