



“Guiding the Heart from Adultery”

Matthew 5:27-30

02-19-2012 – Pastor Kent

→ Warm up...

1. What do you need to 'add' or 'subtract' from your life?
2. How did Elisha part the Jordan River?

→ Introduction... Jesus repeats the phrase, “You have heard that it was said ...” confirming Mosaic and rabbinical tradition. Then He adds, “But I say to you ...” establishing that He is the authority and teaches the meaning of the Law, putting His words above rabbinical tradition.

→ Explore it... Read Matt 5:27-30

1. What principle does Jesus discuss in this passage?
2. How has adultery been defined previously?
 - a. In Lev 20:10, Prov 6:24-29, Jer 29:23, look for the common elements in the passages.
 - b. Read Ex 34:27-28, Jer 3:6-9, and Mal 2:14. Why does God equate worshiping idols with adultery?
3. How many ways does Jesus expand on the definition of adultery? List them.
4. How does Ex 20:17 support Jesus' teaching on adultery?
5. How would you define lust:
 - a. 1 Thess 4:3-8
 - b. 2 Peter 2:9-10
 - c. Ps 68:30
 - d. Prov 11:6
6. Read 2 Sam 11:1-5. List the points where David could have avoided sin and what he should have done instead.

7. How do you know that Jesus isn't advocating self-mutilation to avoid sin in Matt 5:29-30?
8. Why do you think Jesus chose removing eye and hand in His hyperbole?
9. What are some things in modern society that contribute to sexual lust?
10. What do these verses offer in the way of avoiding or ending lust?
 - a. Rom 13:13-14
 - b. Gal 5:16-17
 - c. Phil 4:8
 - d. Job 31:1
11. What is the ultimate penalty for unrepentant lust and does it apply to Christians?
12. Does sexual lust constitute biblical grounds for divorce? Why or why not?

➔ **Apply it...** As you think back on this lesson – answer these questions personally with I, me, and my ...

1. Do you have a problem with sexual lust? Where do you think this is coming from? Is it satisfying or does it continually need to be fed? Where do you think it will end up?
2. Have you ever excused yourself, spouse, or a friend by saying that it is OK to look as long as I don't touch? Does pampering sin in this way reveal a pure heart (Matt 5:8)?
3. Does sexual lust only involve looking at a real people vs. photographs, videos, or even paintings? Are these a trap for you? How do you stop?
4. Read Ex 20:17 again along with Eph 5:3. You may not have a problem with sexual lust, but what about other lusts?

➔ **Pray it...** Father, when it comes to lust we must admit that we have sinned. It reveals that even after we have turned to Jesus for forgiveness that we are still fighting a battle with lusts of one kind or another. Fill us with your Holy Spirit and give us a heart that desires purity in everything we say, do, and think. Help us to turn from our desire to find satisfaction in anything other than having our complete satisfaction in You.