



**Title: The Sin of Adultery**

**Date: March 6, 2022**

**Scripture Text: Matthew 5:27-30**

**Sermon Series: Inside-Out**

## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We are continuing our walk through the Sermon on the Mount from Matthew 5-7. As we saw in last week's sermon, murder starts in the heart with seeds of anger. Similarly, adultery also begins in the heart with seeds of lust. The religious leaders focused on outward actions, but Jesus was concerned with the condition of our heart. He knew that our actions originate in our heart. Where our heart is, so will our actions be.

### I. The Prohibition of Adultery (Matt. 5:27)

Jesus is quoting the seventh commandment taken from [Ex. 20:14](#) & [Deut. 5:18](#). This commandment states not to commit adultery. Adultery is sexual interest with another outside the marital covenant. It is God's design for one man and one woman to enter into a marriage covenant; committing to each other and to God their fidelity in that relationship – 'until death do they part'.

- Compare God's intent for marriage with that of our culture. How does our culture's perspective of marriage differ?
- What do you think has contributed to the way our culture views marriage?
- Being constantly bombarded by cultural influences which are contrary to God's word can cause Christians to lose the right perspective when it comes to marriage. What can you do to help maintain God's perspective of marriage in your life?

### II. The Conception of Adultery (Matt. 5:28)

Jesus is bringing this issue back to the condition of the heart. It's not just the act of adultery, which is condemned, but also the lust which causes it. As with any sin, succumbing to lust is turning our attention away from Christ and toward the flesh. At that point, we are saying to God, 'we are more concerned with our own desires than our obedience to You'.

## Morningside Church

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- The Pastor mentioned two causes for committing adultery in the heart: pornography and people. Describe how each can cause adultery in the heart.
- What are warning signs for us to recognize?
- It is important to replace “thou shalt not’s” with good works. What actions can help us not yield to lustful temptations?
- In a marriage relationship, what can each spouse do to help the other not commit adultery in the heart?

### III. The Correction of the Heart (Matt. 5:29-30)

The eye, which should keep us from stumbling, can in fact ‘trip us up’. Jesus is using hyperbole to make a point. Do whatever it takes to correct your heart attitude. When Joseph was invited to be sexually intimate with Potipher’s wife, he realized that would be a “sin against God” ([Gen. 39:9](#)). We must realize the seriousness of sin and view our actions through the eyes of God and His word.

- What are practical things we can do to correct or maintain a correct heart attitude?
- What are typical ways an individual can demonstrate commitment to spouse and family?
- How can demonstrating a commitment to spouse and family have an impact on others?