

# LUST, DIVORCE, AND REMARRIAGE

Matthew Chapter 5.27-37, 19.1-12

## LUST AND DIVORCE AS ADULTERY

Matthew 5.27-37, 19.1-12 // Malachi 2.16 // 1 Corinthians 7.10-16  
Romans 13.14 // Colossians 1.22 // Ephesians 5.3  
1 Thessalonians 5.22 // 2 Timothy 2.22 // Deuteronomy 24.1-4

Here, Jesus gives us another one of His six "antitheses" in His Sermon on the Mount. He clarifies the depth of what adultery really is. Marriage is one of the deep mysteries of God and the most incredible gift that He has given us, a picture of the Gospel and the Trinity.

### **What to do if you or someone you know is considering divorce.**

- Seek biblical counsel from the Word itself, your pastor, and godly leaders and mentors. Don't go off what you feel or even simply what you want.
- Know that divorce is not the "easy" way out. The scars and damage can last years, especially with children involved.
- Every decision we make must be done "in faith" before the Lord with a clear conscience (**Romans 14.23**). Examine your heart deeply.

### **What to do if you have gotten a biblical divorce.**

- You are free from the guilt and shame of the divorce. Believe that Christ has expiated the stain of any sin done by or to you.
- You should seek serious counsel and biblical insight on whether you are free to remarry. If you come to the conclusion that you are free to, you are free to remarry someone who has either never been married or is no longer married for a biblical reason (a widow/widower or potentially a biblical divorce, depending on your biblical conviction).
- If you are the one who offended, however, and your ex-spouse does not want to remarry or is remarried, you should not seek to remarry.

### **What to do if you have gotten an unbiblical divorce.**

- If you are unmarried, you should not seek to remarry, unless it is to your ex-spouse.
- If you are already remarried, you should be humble, repentant, and thank God for his forgiveness and grace, stay married and pursue Christ with all you have. Apologies may be in order, and any kind of peacemaking should be attempted (though you can't control that outcome).

### **What to do if you have gotten an unbiblical divorce when you were an unbeliever.**

- If you have not remarried and reconciliation is an option, seek that, unless the person is not a believer or if that person has already remarried.
- If that person does not want reconciliation, you should seek serious counsel and biblical insight on whether you are free to remarry.

### **What to do if you have never been married.**

- Stay sexually pure in mind and deed.
- Go very slow pursuing someone. Get wise counsel. Don't consider marrying a non-believer or someone who has had an unbiblical divorce.

## THE GOOD NEWS

Jesus came to bear our brokenness, shame, and guilt. He justifies and removes the stain of any and all sin done by or to us. In Him, we are righteous and pure, and we can stand blameless before God our Father when our hope and trust is in Christ.

1 Corinthians 6.9-11 // Galatians 2.20

## NOTES:

### Recommended Resources

**Sex, Dating, and Relationships** by Gerald Heistand

**Emotional Purity** by Heather Paulson, on emotional affairs and attachment

**Sex Isn't the Problem, Lust Is (Formerly "Not Even a Hint")** by Joshua Harris

**Closing the Window** by Tim Chester, a book about pornography

**Divorce: Before You Say "I Don't"** by Lou Priolo, a 32 page booklet

**The Divorce Dilemma** by John MacArthur

### **The Gospel Transformation Bible**

Published by Crossway, this bible is not *so much* a study bible, but a bible with commentary to help you see the bigger picture of Christ and His Gospel in and through all the Scriptures.

## ARE YOU NEW HERE?

### WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION CHURCH!

We're so glad you joined us today! We'd LOVE for you to **fill out the green Connection Card** on your seat to let us know you were here today. You can drop it in the offering at the end of service or take it to one of our **teammates in a Green Shirt** at the **Connection Booth** outside - we'd love to give you some welcome information.

Feel free to **grab some food or coffee** out in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

### SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

If you've ever taken your child to one of our Kids on Mission classes, or enjoyed a cup of coffee after service, chances are there was a **faithful servant** behind each of those examples. By giving your time and talent on Sundays, you're **an essential part** of helping others meet Jesus, and serving is one of the **most fun & rewarding ways we experience community** with our church family! Fill out a connection card or visit the **Connection Booth** to learn about the serving opportunities available today.

### COMMUNITY GROUPS

The best way to **get connected** in the church is by joining one of our **Community Groups!** You'll **build friendships**, be encouraged, and take the sermon deeper into your heart every week. **Sign up for a Group** on a **Connection Card** or visit the **Connection Booth**. You won't regret it!

### GIVING

**Gospel-centered generosity** should never be fueled by obligation or guilt; it should be motivated by a heart of thankfulness because of the sacrificial love God has already shown us. If you call Life Mission your Home, you can place your gift in the offering baskets at the end of service, give online at [lifemissionchurch.com/blog/give](http://lifemissionchurch.com/blog/give) or mail a check to our PO Box. **Thank you so much for your love & support!**

### KIDS ON MISSION

Our Kids are incredibly important to us! The Kids on Mission ministry has classrooms for **newborns - 6<sup>th</sup> grade** & is passionately overseen by **Audra Napolitano**. Please Visit [lifemissionchurch.com/blog/kids](http://lifemissionchurch.com/blog/kids) to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart and his walkthrough of our curriculum.

### JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our Junior High students (**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders**) worship with the adults, and then head to their class for the rest of service. We challenge them to **dig deeper into what they learned on Sunday** throughout the week.

Our **High School students** stay in the adult service because we believe that it is critical for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate school. For questions on our student ministries, contact **Casey Barnes** at [hbarnes5@yahoo.com](mailto:hbarnes5@yahoo.com) or **John Hawthorne** at [hawthorne-john@hotmail.com](mailto:hawthorne-john@hotmail.com)

## SAVE.

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

## EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

## SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

## CONTACT US:

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[YouTube.com/LifeMissionTV](https://www.youtube.com/LifeMissionTV)

## COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Read **Matthew 5:27-37**. What was impactful from the sermon on Sunday or stuck out in these verses? \_\_\_\_\_

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On Sunday, Jobey talked about Lust and Divorce. How do they relate? What do they have in common? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Malachi 2:16** says that God hates divorce. Read **Matthew 19:1-12**. Why does God hate it so much? \_\_\_\_\_

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Read **Exodus 20:14** and then re-read **Matthew 5:27-28**. Is Jesus adding to the Old Testament law? \_\_\_\_\_

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Read **Romans 13:14**. Some may say that Jesus is being too harsh here. What does **Romans 13:14** say? \_\_\_\_\_

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Read **Genesis 39:8-13** and **2 Timothy 2:22**. What does Joseph do when he's tempted sexually? What are these two verses telling us to do when we get tempted sexually? \_\_\_\_\_

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Read **Ephesians 4:22-24**. After someone runs away from lust what do you they do? Who is the old self and what are we commanded to do? \_\_\_\_\_

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Read **2 Corinthians 10:5**, **Philippians 4:8, 9**, and **Matthew 15:19**. What's another way we can battle lust? \_\_\_\_\_

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Read **Proverbs 27:17** and **Galatians 6:1,2**. Are we called to keep our sins (including sexual sins and lust) a secret or share them with a trusted believer? Explain how confessing sin to one another would be beneficial to helping you battle lust? \_\_\_\_\_

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As a group, break up into guys and girls with the goal of confessing sin, encouraging one another and reminding each other of the Good News. Here are some questions to ask:

- Do you have any sin to confess and repent of?
- If you have been struggling with lust of any form? If so, what's your game plan to battle it?

Pray for one another, encouraging and reminding each other of the Good News.