

# Flipped: The Upside Down Kingdom (Adultery, Lust & Pornography)

Andy Deane · 9/24/2023 · Matthew 5:27-30

I know today's topics have potential to bring up some pain, shame, or guilt. Please know that we love you, & we talk about difficult things to protect marriages, expose sin, bring sinners to repentance, & move towards healing.

Matthew 5:27, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.'

## #1 Adultery that's physical obviously breaks God's law

- Honoring our spouse is so much more than just not committing adultery!
- Visit our marriage resource page for ideas to strengthen your marriage.
- Learn about Cornerstone's Peace After Betrayal support group for women.

Matthew 5:28, *But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.*

## #2 Adultery that's "just" mental still breaks God's law

- By mental I mean: visually, emotionally, relationally, verbally, or romantically.
- We may not be able to control passing thoughts or feelings, because a temptation to sin is not the same thing as sin, but we certainly do decide where our heart & mind will focus.

Matthew 5:29, *If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.*

## #3 Temptations towards adultery should be treated seriously

- Jesus stresses that one must be willing to sacrifice for obedience to the gospel.
- What we really need to do to defeat sin is worse than this, we need to die, be raised again with a new heart.
- Job 31:1, "I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a young woman."

Matthew 5:30, *And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.*

## #4 Both physical & mental adultery have terrible consequences

- Proverbs 6:32, *He who commits adultery lacks sense; he who does it destroys himself.*
- If you are actively committing adultery today and are not willing to repent then you are in a scary situation:
  - Galatians 6:7-8, *7 Don't be misled—God will not be mocked. You will always harvest what you plant. 8 Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature...*
  - 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, *9 Don't you know that the unrighteous will not inherit God's kingdom? Do not be deceived: No sexually immoral people, idolaters, adulterers, or anyone practicing homosexuality, 10 no thieves, greedy people, drunkards, verbally abusive people, or swindlers will inherit.*
  - Hebrews 13:4, *...God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.*
- But, if you are willing to repent, you will find 3 things: (1) a merciful God; (2) a cleansed heart; (3) a fresh start.

**THERE IS HOPE IN JESUS FOR:** Prevention, Forgiveness, Healing, & Reconciliation.

We have a prayer team up front after service, and pastors available all week who are willing to meet with you.