

Purity and Possession

The Sixth and Seventh Commandments

Lesson 10

The Sixth Commandment

The sixth commandment is YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.

WHAT ADULTERY IS

Probably the first thing most people think of when hearing the word "adultery" is someone having a sexual relationship outside of marriage. This could take the form of premarital sex or an extramarital affair. While these are certainly examples of adultery, the term embraces much more.

Look us Matthew 19:9. What does this say about adultery? _____

Matthew 19:9 indicates a situation in which divorce is not in opposition to the sixth commandment. What is this situation?

1 Corinthians 7:15 gives another exception for divorce. Before jumping to the wrong conclusion, read 1 Corinthians 7:12-14. What is the other exception?

Jesus has more to say about adultery. As so often occurred when Jesus spoke about the commandments, He deepened the meaning of the sixth commandment when He spoke of it. Read Matthew 5:28. What additional meaning is given to the sixth commandment?

Paul has more to say on this topic. Read Ephesians 5:4. What behavior should we not engage in?

Finally, read 1 Corinthians 6:18-20. What are we cautioned to avoid?

To summarize, list the five points that explain what adultery is.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

WHAT MAKES A GOOD MARRIAGE

Now that we know what adultery is, it is time to discuss what makes a good marriage.

First of all, marriage is something that can be prepared for (and should be prepared for) well before actually entering into it. It is so important to know that actions and attitudes that are developed in youth will help (or hinder) our marriage.

One of the most important things we can do to help our marriage be a good one is to remain pure before our marriage. This is such a crucial area and goes against much that is said in school, on television, in the news, and by the "experts." Yet, this is what God wants for us. He knows how damaging having premarital sex can be for us. We cannot undo this action. We cannot escape the memories such actions will leave with us. Our marriage partner is the one who is to be special in our actions and special in our memories.

Another important area is that of our attitudes. Some of the most important attitudes we can have are those of caring, consideration for others, sharing, giving. Selfishness is not useful in a marriage relationship. These useful attitudes can be worked on and developed. Think of ways you can work on being more caring of others.

EXAMPLE: Willingly help with dinner

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Finally, another important help in having a good marriage is knowing God wants us to respect the marriage vows. Look up Genesis 2:18-24. What does this tell about marriage?

What do we learn in Matthew 19:6? _____

Now read Romans 7:2. What does it say? _____

To summarize this section, what are three things that help make a good marriage?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE

To end this discussion of the sixth commandment, we will look at the purposes of marriage. The Bible gives three reasons for marriage.

Look up Genesis 1:28. What purpose is given there? _____

Look up Genesis 2:18. What purpose is given there? _____

Finally, look up 1 Corinthians 7:2. What purpose is given there?

It is important to remember that marriage is part of God's will for most people. God wants us to honor the vows we make before Him. God wants us to remain pure until we are married. And God wants us to develop attitudes of caring, consideration, sharing and giving. These things will make our marriages good ones that will last.

The Seventh Commandment

The Seventh commandment is YOU SHALL NOT STEAL.

This commandment refers to more than simply taking an object that belongs to someone

else. There are many ways in which to steal.

Unscramble the letters to complete the words in the following. Each complete phrase indicates a way the seventh commandment can be broken.

1. Natkig nights that do not belong to you. _____

2. Eachnigt in chosol. _____
3. Doing opor owrk on a job. _____
4. Getting idap for krow not oden. _____
5. Collecting excessive inancesur slacim. _____

6. Giving a grown impression of the litaquy of dogos. _____

7. Teaching on exsat. _____

What would be the opposite of stealing? _____

This is the other part of this command. Instead of stealing and cheating, we should be giving and helping.

Read Matthew 5:42. What are we to do? _____

Now read Hebrews 13:16. What sacrifices please God?

1. _____
2. _____

Look up I John 3:17. What question is raised?

Now read Matthew 25:14-30.

Whom does the master represent? _____

Who are the servants? _____

What are the talents? _____

What is the point of this parable? _____

Who is the owner of all things? _____

It is easy to keep all of the many blessings God has given to us and use them on ourselves. Most people do just that. This is breaking the seventh commandment. As Christians we should give to God from all that He has given to us.

List ways you can give to God from

A. your finances _____

B. your talent _____

C. your mind _____

D. your body _____

What will be your answer to God when He asks, "What have you done with MY possessions?" If your answer will be that you have spent them on yourself, then you will have robbed God.

