

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: To win, build and send Department of Defense leaders to live for Jesus Christ

Ten Commandments for the 21st Century

Feb 2013

LESSON # 8 – YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY

INTRODUCTION

How does society view adultery today?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Note: Israel was not much different than today because all around her was the worship of reproduction and sex. Deut 23:17, 18. Chastity and adultery were so important that, after a trial, a husband could have the woman stoned, a significant problem for Jesus' parents. Deut 22:13-21, Luke 1:34, Matt 1:19-20 Adultery is sexual intercourse by either husband or wife outside of marriage. Fornication (1 Cor 6:18) is intercourse between two unmarried people. Article 134 of the UCMJ defines adultery as intercourse that, at the time, the accused or the other person was married to someone else. The UCMJ is also concerned as to how it will affect good order and discipline and whether it discredits the armed forces. "The integrity of relationships is critical in the covenant community; the faithfulness of a man and woman to each other reflects the faithfulness of God to His people. In other ancient Near Eastern societies adultery was considered a "great sin" against the spouse. Scripture sees it as a sin against God, a denial of the covenant structure that binds a people to the Lord. It's no wonder that idolatry is frequently portrayed as spiritual adultery, a sin against the bond of intimacy that exists between the Lord and Israel." ¹

Read Ex 20:14

1. How does God leave this commandment open to interpretation?

Read Genesis 20:

2. Why did the king want Sarah? Why was Abraham concerned?

3. How did God view this offense? vv. 6, 7, 17

4. How does God view marriage and sex? Gen 2:20-25

5. What are some of the physical consequences of adultery? Mental? Spiritual? 1 Cor 3:16,17

6. What are some of the blessing (rewards) of fidelity? Psalm 128:1-4

Read Matt: 5:27-30

7. What was Jesus' definition of adultery?

8. Why was (is) this so hard to accept?

9. What is the problem with pornography? Why is it so appealing?

10. Adultery is more than a moral issue. It is a character issue? Why?

APPLICATION

- What changes do you need to make to your physical, mental and spiritual life to honor God as you consider this commandment?
- Who can you establish as an accountability partner to help you keep this commandment?

The Christian Broadcasting Network researchers discovered scientific evidence that pornography is as addictive as cocaine or heroin, going directly to the pleasure centers of the brain. It is so powerful that thousands of women said that, when faced with an ultimatum, their husbands chose the fantasy world and cybersex over real life and real intimacy with their spouse.

The Ten Offenses by Pat Robertson

¹ Richards, L. O. (1991). *The Bible reader's companion* (electronic ed.) (64). Wheaton: Victor Books.