

## “RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE”

### Exodus 20:13

### Servants' Guide

---

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Think about the last movie you saw. What perspective towards sex did that movie promote?

#### Read Exodus 20:14 and Matthew 5:27-30

2. Read these verses and try to come up with a biblical dictionary definition of “adultery.”
3. What is God's design for marriage? (Consider the concept of “covenant”) How does God's design differ from the world's understanding of marriage?
  - *God's design is centered around “covenant”. Marriage is not between two people but between two people plus God. Thus vows are a covenant to one another and to God. It is triangular in design.*
  - *It is a picture of a greater covenant between Yahweh and the people of Israel (the church).*
  - *The world does not see marriage as a vow before God. There is far less commitment and far less at stake than a biblical marriage.*
4. In today's culture, more than half of all marriages will end in divorce. Why would this statistic undoubtedly grieve the heart of God? Is divorce ever permissible?
  - *Important to be sensitive to those in your group who may have experienced divorce in their own family.*
  - *See Malachi 2:4-6. God hates the breaking of the covenant of marriage. If marriage is a picture of God's relationship with His people, divorce will defy the very relationship that God holds so precious and offers to us.*
  - *Divorce is permissible in the case of marital unfaithfulness because at the point one person has already broken the covenant vows. An example is Joseph wanting to quietly divorce Mary because he assumed another man had impregnated her.*
5. As we understand God's design for marriage, how does this commandment have relevance in our opposite gender relationships?
  - *We are each to be part of a covenant relationship in the future. The best way to treat someone of the opposite gender is to pretend that his or her future covenant spouse is there too. This will automatically draw appropriate lines.*
  - *Even present dating relationships do not have certainty until vows are exchanged. Imagine you are having a physical relationship with someone and then you break up. You have been fooling around with someone else's future spouse.*
  - *It is important that we practice treating one another with absolute purity as brothers and sisters in Christ. Protect one another physically, spiritually, and emotionally so they can give themselves fully to their future spouse in covenant.*
  - *It may be a good idea to discuss practically what this means within our culture.*
6. The previous commandment showed us how hate is the pathway to murder. In the same way, lust is the pathway to adultery. (Note that “lust” for men tends to physical and sight oriented while for women it tends to be more emotional/attachment oriented) Read the following verses and try to glean some helpful principles, lessons, and applications.

• 1 Thess 4:3-8	• Genesis 39:9
• Ephesians 5:3-7	• Psalm 119:9,11
• Mark 9:47	• Job 31:1
• 2 Timothy 2:22	• Philippians 4:8
7. How are we to understand and apply Jesus' words in v.29-30?
  - *Obviously this is not meant to be taken as literal. However, we must accept the severity with which Jesus calls us to deal with these issues.*
8. What are some things that convicted you today?

Please read Pastor Min Chung's sermon on this commandment. It deals with many of the issues college students face very directly. It was given on March 26, 1999. Go to [www.cfchome.org](http://www.cfchome.org).