

An Affair of the Heart

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, May 8, 2022; Exodus 20:14; Josh Carollo

Sermon Theme – God created marriage between husband and wife, and within that unique relationship, God gave the gift of sex. The Israelites failed to worship God exclusively, so God called them adulterers. But Jesus is faithful in every regard. Jesus was faithful to other humans, His Father, and His Bride!

I. Commandment Given – Read Exodus 20:14 and Genesis 2:18-25

- A. What is included in the seventh commandment?

- B. Read Genesis 2:18-25. Why is sexual union between husband and wife an integral component of marriage?

- C. Why is marriage so precious to the Lord? What from Genesis 2 shapes how we contemplate and pursue the honoring of marriage?

II. Commandment Fulfilled – Read 2 Samuel 11 and Matthew 15:18-19

- A. Read 2 Samuel 11. What observations do you make within this narrative? What do you learn about the nature of adultery from the narrative?

- B. How would you interpret Matthew 15:18? What is the heart of our problem with adultery?

- C. Read Hebrews 3:2 and 4:15. How is this passage an encouragement to the Christian regarding sexual temptation and the pursuit of purity?

- D. Ephesians 5 depicts Jesus' faithfulness to His bride. What does it look like to nourish, cherish, and pursue faithfulness to your spouse? What are some ways that we can excel still more in loving our spouses well?

III. Commandment Applied – Read Matt. 5:27-30, Rom. 8:13, and Eph. 5:5

- A. What are the radical steps that Jesus deems necessary in the fight for purity? Do you believe that Christians can truly put to death adultery in their hearts?

- B. How does the love of Christ enable us to see others as people, not as sex objects?

- C. What tangible action should be taken in the life of the Christian to fight against lust? What practical ways have you fought against lust, and where would you like to excel still more?