

## Applying God's Word

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**This Week's Passage:** Matthew 5:27-32

**Corresponding Sermon from King's Church:** "The Call To Faithfulness"

### Opening Discussion

1. Read this week's passage together.
2. Share *your* immediate observations from this text. Was there anything shared in Sunday's sermon that stuck out to *you*?
3. In what ways were you able to see *yourself* in the sermon and in the text?

### Going Deeper

1. Lust in this passage is an internal desire for a person other than your spouse (sexually or emotionally). It is a specific longing that is reserved for the marriage relationship and thus sinful when applied outside those parameters. Jesus doesn't soften his words in telling us that lust is a deadly sin deserving of his judgment. We must, therefore, take the temptation toward lust very seriously. Discuss the variety of ways we are tempted toward lust in our culture. Consider the ways lust may affect us differently as men and women, as well as during different stages of life.
  - A. As men?
  - B. As Women?
  - C. As Singles & young people?

2. Because of the seriousness of lust, Jesus calls us to take drastic measures to fight it. To be willing to do whatever it takes in this life to attack the sin of lust at its source. This itself is a work of God's grace in our lives. Discuss the practical ways that we can fight lust. Try to address some of the specific examples you listed in question one.

3. Continuing with the topic of faithfulness in God's design for marriage, Jesus then speaks about divorce. Specifically, he reminds us that God designed marriage to last a lifetime. Discuss how we can practically fight for faithfulness to our marriage commitment. What role does the body of Christ play in this fight? How does Jesus' exception reveal our sinfulness rather than giving us an excuse to get divorced?

#### Prayer Points

1. Thank God that through faith in Christ he totally forgives the sins of lust and divorce.
2. Ask him to reveal ways to fight temptations to sin in these areas.