

---

## SERMON NOTES October 31, 2021

---

Today's notes also available at CCPL.life/Connect

### Exodus 20:14 & Matthew 5:27-30 Why Is It Wrong If It Feels Right Pastor Mike

- I. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment
- II. The unique \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of sex
  - a. The culture's lie; It's just \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. It's power to \_\_\_\_\_ within a covenant
  - c. It's \_\_\_\_\_ power outside a covenant relationship
    - 1.
    - 2.
    - 3.
- III. Dealing with the \_\_\_\_\_ of the problem
  - a. The problem of \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Jesus' call to \_\_\_\_\_ action
- IV. \_\_\_\_\_ the principle of the command
  - a. Deal with the core issue at \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Remember and pursue \_\_\_\_\_

#### ***Parental warning; This morning's message is rated PG***

*In this morning Pastor Mike will be discussing the 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment and the broader issue of God's design for sex and marriage. This may include things which may not be appropriate for younger children. We always have children's programs in both services for children who are in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and younger, but we realize that some parents choose to have their children join them in adult worship service. Because of the sensitive nature of this morning's message, we encourage parents to have their younger children attend the children's program this morning.*

### Questions for reflection, application, and discussion

1. There is a widespread perception in our culture that the Bible and Christianity is anti-sex. Do you believe this is true? How would you respond to someone who argued that this is true? Why do you think this is believed by so many people in our culture?
2. In his message, Pastor Mike talked about the unique nature and power of sex.
  - a. Many argue that sex is just physical, it's something we do with our bodies that doesn't really impact our soul. How would you respond to that argument?
  - b. What is the unique positive nature and power of sex to unite within a covenant?
  - c. What is the unique negative and destructive power of sex?
3. In Proverbs 7, Solomon describes a person flirting with sexual sin to *"an ox goes to the slaughter, or as a stag is caught fast...he does not know that it will cost him his life. We all know what destruction adultery brings, yet verse 26 and 27 continues, "for many a victim has she laid low, and all her slain are a mighty throng."* If everyone is aware that adultery is not only wrong, but so destructive, why is it still so common – even among Christians?
4. Proverbs 5:8 warns us that when it comes to sexual sin, we should, *"keep your way far from her, and do not go near the door of her house."* Can the fall into sexual sin ever be a sudden thing, or is it the end result of a process of compromise and flirting with sin?
  - a. If a fall into sexual sin is the result of a process, what steps along the way might we flirt with, and even justify as being OK?
  - b. What practical steps can (and should) we take to protect ourselves by keeping our path far from temptation?
5. Speaking of sexual temptation Jesus said in Matthew 5:29-30 that if something is leading you towards the path of sexual sin, it is better to cut that thing out, even if it isn't bad in itself, rather than risk allowing it to take us down the path of sin.
  - a. Some of the contemporary issues that can lead us down the path toward sexual sin include the internet, Facebook and online relationships; questionable content in our entertainment, involvement in questionable relationships. Can you think of any others?
  - b. We may argue that these things don't cause us to sin, but the key question is does our involvement in any of them risk leading us down a path that may lead to sexual sin? If so, what level of risk is acceptable?
  - c. For your involvement in each of these areas ask yourself not only 'is this leading me into sin,' but also, 'is this leading me towards or away from God?'
6. When it comes to protecting your marriage, it is important to remember that the best defense is a good offense. We become much more susceptible to the temptations of another person when our relationship with our spouse is weak.
  - a. How hard are you working on building your marriage? How much effort are you putting toward romance and creativity? If you asked your spouse to rate you, what would he/she say?
  - b. What steps are you willing to commit to in the future to nurture your relationship with your spouse?