

Living Upside Down

Message 6: *The Scarlet
Letter*
Mt. 5:27-32



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What this message is about:

Like his teaching on murder, Jesus goes beyond the act to the thoughts behind the act when dealing with adultery and divorce.

The purpose of this message:

To listen courageously to what Jesus has to say about sexuality and marriage faithfulness.

1. _____ righteousness:

- a. No _____.
Mt. 5:27
- b. Provide a divorce _____
Mt. 5:31

2. _____ righteousness:

- a. No looking with _____ intent
Mt. 5:28-30
- b. No divorce except for _____
Mt. 5:31
Mt. 19:9

3. Biblical boundary: Sex was created by God for _____

Mt. 19:3-6
1Cor. 7:1-5, 5:1, 6:13

4. Why the boundary?

- a. Because humans are created in _____ (Gen. 1:26-28)
- b. Because sex _____ the oneness intended for marriage. (Gen. 2:28).
- c. Because it is a reflection of the _____ that makes up the nature of God as three in one. (Gen. 2:28, Deut. 6:4)
- d. Because it is the way we give ourselves _____
- e. Because the proper use of sex affirms the _____ of both male and female.
- f. Because love is more than _____ and _____.

g. Because the whole Bible from start to finish is a _____.

Next Step:

Determine that you will apply the redemption of your life by Christ to your sexuality.

LOOKING BACK

1 Pick two readers. Read Mt. 5:28-32. Where did God stop you?

2 What are the very radical and shocking parts of this passage?

3 What is the contrast that Jesus is making and what is his point as it relates to first part of his sermon? Which of the beatitudes (Mt. 5:2-12) might best apply to this passage.

4 Discuss the grounds for divorce Jesus gives. What about remarriage? How might legal righteousness and Kingdom righteousness relate to remarriage?

5 Summarize the difference between legal and Kingdom righteousness on the subject of sexuality, adultery, and divorce.

6 Discuss the biblical boundary to sex and some of the reasons for it.