

Devotion 3 - Adultery

Discussion question:

- 1) What is an adulterer?
- 2) What do you think you put over God sometimes?

Main passage: Matthew 5:27-30

1) Who is an adulterer? We are all adulterers!

Colossians 1:16

-We were all created for God

Exodus 20:1-6

-First three commandments are about loving God and worshipping Him directly

-We were created to worship God since we were made by Him and for Him and we owe our lives to Him

Isaiah 29:13

-This is God talking about His chosen people not worshipping Him truthfully although they give lip service to Him

We are all adulterers as we were made to worship God yet and continually worship other things in life. We worship things which are given to us to enjoy but we choose to cherish them more than what they are for rather than the one who deserves all praise and worship.

Romans 1:21-23

-Similar idea of how although the Israelites knew God, they did not worship Him despite all He did for them

2) There is a cost for following Christ (verse 29-30)

Luke 9:23

-We have to deny our sinful nature and conform to Christ's image. Although we will never fully be able to do this, throughout our lives there should be evident improvement in this struggle with our sinful nature.

Leviticus 11:45

-We are instructed to be set apart for God as He himself is holy. This however does not demand we need to be perfect but it does call us to consistently be more like Christ over time.

James 2:18-20

Simply through saying Christ is Lord is not sufficient, we need to accompany our faith with actions by the way we live, because that is a result of true faith

Good news= The Gospel

What is the Gospel?

God created us in His image to be His worshippers. However, we are all adulterers and choose to worship other things besides God. God had to dismiss us from His sight, because He was a just God and was not able to tolerate our sin. Sin is all the dirty and dark things of our thought life which are inappropriate to show people. Sin is when we act from our adulterous hearts. As a result, Christ had to die on the cross for our sins once and for all. Simply through putting our faith in Christ, we are able to have a relationship with God and be justified from our sin.

Book of Hosea>>Reflection of the Gospel

The prophet Hosea was told to marry a prostitute who eventually cheated on him and went back to her old ways of sleeping with other men. After all this hurt and disappointment Hosea goes through He is instructed to forgive the prostitute and buy her back to be his wife. In the same way, we prostituted ourselves to material possessions, loved ones, etc. God in His love and mercy decided to purchase us at the cost of His son's life. Christ paid the cost with His blood and redeemed us back to His Father.

CCSA Theme: Spreading the good news (Matthew 28:18-20<<Great Commission)

Our reaction to the gospel:

-If we truly believe Christ is Lord and He died for all our sins and rose on the third day, we would carry out the great commission. This is a direct response out of our love and faith for Christ, because faith is occupied by deeds (James 2:18-20 and Ephesians 2:8-10).

Colossians 1:16

For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

Isaiah 29:13

The Lord says: "These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is made up only of rules taught by men.

Exodus 20:1-7

And God spoke all these words:

² "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

³ "You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴ "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Matthew 5:23-26

²³ “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.

²⁵ “Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still with him on the way, or he may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. ²⁶ I tell you the truth, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.

Ephesians 4:26-27

²⁶ “In your anger do not sin”: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ and do not give the devil a foothold.

Romans 1:21-23

²¹ For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

Luke 9:23

²³ Then he said to them all: “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

Leviticus 11:45

⁴⁵ I am the LORD who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore be holy, because I am holy.

James 2:17-20

¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.”

Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do. ¹⁹ You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.

²⁰ You foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless

Ephesians 2:8-10

⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.