

ADULTERY

1. What did Jesus say in verse 28 that countered the earlier interpretation of the law regarding *adultery*?
 - a. Although *adulterous* thoughts are not grounds for divorce, Jesus wants us to see that *adulterous* actions stem from *adulterous* thinking. *Lustful* thoughts are sin to God. What reactions or responses do you have when you consider this?
 - b. *Cutting out an eye* or *cutting off a hand* would be a drastic measure. That is exactly Jesus' point – not that we should cut off our physical limbs or organs, but 1) that we should see the seriousness of sin and 2) that we would take drastic measures to cut it out of our lives. What are some measures a person might take that would help to eliminate *lustful thoughts*?
2. What did Jesus suggest we do with a *sinning eye* or *hand*?
 - a. How does a *sinning eye* or a *sinning hand* relate to the warnings regarding *adultery*?
 - b. *Cutting out an eye* or *cutting off a hand* would be a drastic measure. That is exactly Jesus' point – not that we should cut off our physical limbs or organs, but 1) that we should see the seriousness of sin and 2) that we would take drastic measures to cut it out of our lives. What are some measures a person might take that would help to eliminate *lustful thoughts*?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 10:5 and explain how to *bring thoughts into captivity to the obedience of Christ*.

DIVORCE

1. Finding a loophole for divorce has been a quest throughout time. Many Jews gladly accepted the provision of *giving the wife a divorce certificate*. This was never God's intention. What did Jesus say was the only grounds for *divorce*? Verse 32
2. The Pharisees asked the question: *Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife*? Read Jesus' response in Mark 10:2-9 and answer the following questions:

Why did Moses *permit a man to write a certificate of divorce*?

What was God's intention *from the beginning*?

Therefore, what was Jesus' conclusion?

3. Why do you think that so many people, including Christians, dismiss what Jesus clearly stated?
4. What thoughts of the heart can begin to take a person down the road toward *divorce*?
5. How would understanding Jesus' statement about divorce as a command prevent even the consideration of *divorcing*?

REVIEW

1. Share something you learned from this lesson about:

Adultery

Divorce

2. These statements of Jesus certainly reveal the fact that *all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God* (Romans 3:23). No one, even believers, is exempt from these sins of the heart. However, we are still called to pursue His holiness. How has this lesson challenged you to do that?
3. How has this lesson encouraged you?

My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin.
And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous.

- 1 John 2:1