

LIVE IT OUT

Answer these questions on your own or preferably with others to reflect upon and apply what you've heard.

1. Which part of today's message stood out to you and why?
2. How would you describe the realities of the nature of sex based on today's main passage (Matthew 5:27-32) and Matthew 19:6?
3. In light of today's message, what's the one thing you could do that would have the greatest positive benefit to your life?

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Cornerstone's Top Three

Learn what's happening right now with the three most important things for you to know this week at Cornerstone.

1. **Easter is five weeks from today.** It's time to give up *not* inviting people to church for Lent! Invite your friends and family to check out CornerstoneNH.org online and join you at church [On Site](#).
2. **Our Annual Meeting Celebration is March 17.** Join us to celebrate God's faithfulness in the past and look forward to what he may have for us in the future. Lunch will be served, new & renewing members will be welcomed, and our 2024 budget & priorities will be presented. CornerstoneNH.org/Events
3. **We're livestreaming on YouTube.** CornerstoneNH.org/Online is great for watching our services live by yourself, but what if you want to gather the whole family or have a more immersive experience on the big screen? For many it's easy to access YouTube on your TV and now our 11 AM services will broadcast live on our YouTube channel. Subscribe and click the "Notify me" bell at YouTube.com/theCornerstoneNH.

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Voice or Text: 603-225-2550

Email: contactus@cornerstonenh.org

Give: CornerstoneNH.org/give



Your name: _____

Check in! You matter to us! We want to know who's connecting at Cornerstone. Open our **Church Center app** (search for it in your app store) and click the **Check In button**, or text **hereto 603-225-2550**. For WiFi connect to **cornerstone** with password **Sayyes2003!**



YOUR GROWTH GUIDE FOR

CORNERSTONE ON SITE & CORNERSTONE ONLINE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024

“Is the Biblical sexual ethic right, realistic, or fair?”

NO LONGER TWO

TODAY'S MESSAGE

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

A STUDY IN _____ – PART SIX

TODAY: SEX • MATTHEW 5:27-32

THE BOTTOM LINE

TAKE SEX _____ .

“You have heard the commandment that says, ‘You must not commit adultery.’ – Matthew 5:27 NLT

THE INDISPENSABLE JESUS // SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART ONE

■ **JESUS IS DEMONSTRATING OUR NEED FOR A SAVIOR.**

FULL FILLED // SERMON ON THE MOUNT PART FOUR

JESUS SHIFTS OUR FOCUS FROM SUPERFICIAL CONFORMITY TO RADICAL TRANSFORMATION.

"But I warn you—unless your righteousness is better than the righteousness of the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven!"
— Matthew 5:20 NLT

RECOGNIZE THAT UNFAITHFULNESS HAPPENS IN THE _____ .

"You have heard the commandment that says, 'You must not commit adultery.' — Matthew 5:27 NLT

But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.
— Matthew 5:22 NLT

REALIZE THE NEED FOR _____ MEASURES.

So if your eye—even your good eye—causes you to lust, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.
— Matthew 5:29 NLT

And if your hand—even your stronger hand—causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. — Matthew 5:30 NLT

RECOGNIZE THE _____ OF SEX.

"You have heard the law that says, 'A man can divorce his wife by merely giving her a written notice of divorce.' But I say that a man who divorces his wife, unless she has been unfaithful, causes her to commit adultery. And anyone who marries a divorced woman also commits adultery.
— Matthew 5:31 NLT

But I tell you that everyone who divorces his wife for any reason except sexual unfaithfulness makes her the victim of adultery...
— Matthew 5:31b (France 2007: 192)

If you divorce your wife, you're responsible for making her an adulteress (unless she has already made herself that by sexual promiscuity). — Matthew 5:31b MSG

Remember, "Context is king!" when it comes to accurate interpretations and applications.

The cultural context answers, "How would the original hearers most naturally understood Jesus' words?" '...when [in Matthew 19:9] Matthew speaks of "except for the cause of infidelity," his audience would have understood this as a legal charge, interpreting these words in line with the typical meaning of "infidelity" as grounds for divorce, namely, sexual unfaithfulness to the marriage. Jewish and Roman law, in fact, both mandated divorce for these grounds.' (Kenner 2009: 466-467)

There is also a theological context: the one-flesh union that God designed into sexual intimacy. Adultery does violence against the one-flesh union in the marriage and binds a married person to another in a way that is inappropriate and harmful to everyone involved. For an example of how this applies even before marriage, consider Joseph's dilemma in Matthew 1:18-19. Wrongly assuming Mary's pre-marital infidelity, "it did not occur to him that the betrothal (and the marriage to which it must otherwise lead) could be regarded as still valid." (France 2007: 211)

Since they are no longer two but one, let no one split apart what God has joined together." — Matthew 19:6 NLT

Now we look inside, and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life emerges! — Matthew 5:17 MSG

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
— 1 John 1:9 CSB

NEXT STEP: SAY YES

SET SERIOUS _____ .

Don't team up with those who are unbelievers...
— 2 Corinthians 6:14-15 NLT

Some resources that may be helpful: The New Rules for Love, Sex & Dating by Andy Stanley. Love, Sex & Lasting Relationships by Chip Ingram. The Game Plan: The Men's 30-Day Strategy for Attaining Sexual Integrity by Joe Dallas. Surviving a Spiritual Mismatch in Marriage by Lee & Leslie Strobel. Hope for the Separated: Wounded Marriages Can Be Healed by Gary Chapman. Love & Respect by Dr. Emerson Eggerichs. The Five Love Languages by Gary Chapman.

For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him. — Philippians 2:13 NLT

Saying "YES" to Jesus? Let us know by checking in on the app, double-circling "say yes" on your Check-In card, or text YES to 603-225-2550. Let us celebrate your decision with you & resource you for your new life in Christ.