

TAKEAWAY

The Radical King

Transformation through the story of Jesus

FULLY COMMITTED
SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2020

INTRODUCTION

On Sunday (at Digital Church) Matt spoke on Matthew 5:27-37, which covers three 'nuggets' of great teaching from Jesus. These sections cover some different topics, but they are united in that they all touch on the significance of commitment in our relationships.

READ

Matthew 5:27-30

EXPLAIN

The ways Jesus speak here assumes that anyone listening is married because at that time virtually everyone was, and that's why He talks in terms of adultery and avoiding it. He also addresses men, likely because most of his audience was men, though there is no suggestion that lust is a male-only issue.

DISCUSS

1. What is lust? Why is it a problem?
2. If someone is committed to their spouse, why does lust matter?

3. Jesus uses strong images to show how vital it is that we distance ourselves from things that 'help' us to sin. Is He being too extreme? Why do you think He is so strong on this?

READ

Matthew 5:31-32

EXPLAIN

The Old Testament men were abusing the system and getting a divorce for silly reasons so they could remarry easily. The word that is here translated as adultery might be better translated as "unfaithfulness." That has a wider meaning: marriage is not betrayed only through sexual infidelity, although that is the issue Jesus addresses here.

4. What are the implications of what Jesus says for how we see marriage?

5. What are the implications of what Jesus says for how we see divorce?

6. If a friend was planning to get married, what questions would you ask them? What if they were planning to get divorced?

READ

Matthew 5:33-37



EXPLAIN

In OT times, swearing oaths was quite common. By the time of Jesus, the religious leaders had tried to find loopholes that meant they could 'sort of' do the right thing and yet still get away with doing what suited them. When Jesus talks about oaths here, it's more specific than just lying or telling the truth. It's about what you commit to, and whether you honour that commitment or try to slide out of it.

DISCUSS

7. What are some modern-day 'oaths' that you say or hear others saying?
8. What are the benefits of clearly letting your yes be yes and your no be no?
10. How do you feel when you know someone is committed to you? (Not necessarily a spouse)
11. Where are you sitting on the fence around commitment? Where are you keeping a distance, playing it cool, staying on the edges?
12. We tend to want all the privileges of committed relationships and yet we struggle with the hard work of actually doing the everyday, self-denial that real commitment means. Do you see this around you? What do you think is the root cause?
13. Is there anyone you need to say sorry to because you've not been committed as you should?

PRAY

