



# Outward Group Discussion Guide

February 22, 2026 (Salem)

## SUMMARY

This sermon addresses the seventh commandment, "You shall not commit adultery," exploring God's beautiful design for sexuality within marriage while confronting the widespread issue of sexual immorality. The pastor emphasizes that sexual sin is not just about physical adultery but encompasses all sexual activity outside of covenant marriage between a man and woman, including pornography, premarital sex, homosexuality, and lustful thoughts. The message balances God's hatred of sexual sin with His incredible grace and forgiveness, demonstrating how Jesus offers redemption without condemnation while calling believers to radical repentance. The sermon challenges the church to approach sexual sin with both humility and holiness, acknowledging that every person struggles in this area while pointing toward the healing power of confession, accountability, and walking in righteousness.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does Paul's teaching in 1 Corinthians 7 challenge both ancient and modern cultural views about sex and marriage, and what does mutual authority in marriage look like practically?
2. The sermon describes sex as 'covenant cement' that bonds marriage together. How does this metaphor help us understand both the beauty of marital intimacy and the damage caused by sexual sin outside of marriage?
3. Jesus expands the seventh commandment to include lustful thoughts, not just physical acts. Why does God care about our thought life, and how can we cultivate purity in our minds?
4. The pastor mentions that 'you cannot fight sin in secret.' What barriers prevent people from confessing sexual sin to trusted believers, and how can the church create safer spaces for honest confession?
5. How does the story of the woman caught in adultery in John 8 demonstrate both God's grace and His call to holiness, and what does 'neither do I condemn you, go and sin no more' mean for us today?

6. The sermon states that sexual sin creates spiritual damage by bringing Jesus into our sin. How should awareness of Christ's presence in us affect our decisions about sexual purity?
7. What is the difference between shame-based purity culture and gospel-centered sexual holiness, and how can we pursue the latter without falling into the former?
8. The pastor describes needing friends who pulled him back from the brink of adultery. What characteristics should we look for in accountability relationships, and how can we be that kind of friend to others?
9. How does hating what God hates differ from self-condemnation or shame, and what role does this godly hatred of sin play in our sanctification?
10. Given that sexual immorality damages families, relationships, and passes patterns to children, how should awareness of these consequences motivate us toward repentance and change?