



Outward Group Discussion Guide

February 22, 2026 (Silverton)

SUMMARY

This sermon addresses the seventh commandment—"Do not commit adultery"—by exploring God's original design for sex as a good gift within marriage while confronting how culture has distorted this gift. The pastor traces the pendulum swing from the sexual revolution of the 1960s to the purity culture of the 1980s-90s, arguing that the church became "more prude than the Bible." Using Song of Solomon, the sermon establishes that sexual desire and intimacy are God's idea and should be celebrated within marriage. However, Jesus expands adultery beyond the physical act to include lust and sexual immorality of any kind outside marriage. The sermon emphasizes the real damage—spiritual, relational, and emotional—that sexual sin causes to individuals, spouses, children, and communities. The pastor calls for both hatred of sin (leading to drastic protective measures) and love for Jesus (running to His grace). The sermon concludes with the story of the woman caught in adultery, emphasizing that there is no condemnation for those who call Jesus Lord and that His cross displays both hatred of wickedness and love for sinners.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How has the church's approach to sex shifted from the sexual revolution of the 1960s to the purity culture of the 1980s-90s, and what are the consequences of swinging too far in either direction?
2. What does the Song of Solomon teach us about God's view of sexual desire and intimacy, and why is it important to understand sex as a good gift from God rather than something shameful?
3. Jesus expanded the definition of adultery to include lust in Matthew 5:27-28. How does this broader understanding challenge our culture's view of sexual freedom and personal autonomy?
4. The sermon describes sex as 'superglue' that bonds a marriage together. What are the spiritual and emotional consequences when this bond is formed outside of marriage or broken through infidelity?
5. Why does God use the imagery of adultery and prostitution to describe spiritual unfaithfulness in the Old Testament, and what does this reveal about the seriousness of idolatry?

6. The pastor encourages us to hate sin with the same intensity that God hates it. How can a godly hatred of sin empower us to take drastic measures to protect ourselves from sexual immorality?
7. What practical steps or 'drastic measures' might you need to take in your own life to wage war against sexual temptation and flee from immorality?
8. Paul admits in Romans 7 that he does the very thing he hates. If hatred of sin alone is not enough to overcome it, what role does the love of Jesus play in our transformation?
9. In John 8, Jesus tells the woman caught in adultery 'neither do I condemn you' but also 'go and sin no more.' How do we balance receiving God's grace with the call to radical obedience and repentance?
10. The sermon emphasizes that sexual sin is not the unpardonable sin and that there is grace and mercy available. How can the church create a culture where people feel safe to confess their struggles without fear of shame or condemnation?