

GOOD TO GREAT

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

HOW TO MAKE A MESS OF YOUR MARRIAGE

Ephesians 4:15

Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.

Matthew 5:27-37

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’²⁸ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.
²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell.

Matthew 5:27-37

³⁰ “And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

³¹ “It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’”

Matthew 5:27-37

³² “But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

Matthew 5:27-37

³³“Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’ ³⁴ But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵ or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.

Matthew 5:27-37

³⁶ “And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷ Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.”

Three ways to make a mess of your marriage

1) Make light of lust

Matthew 5:27-28

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’²⁸ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”

Matthew 6:22a

“The eye is the lamp of the body...”

Genesis 3:6

...when the woman **saw** that the tree was good for food, and that it was a **delight** to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she **took** of its fruit and ate, and she also **gave** some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

How to keep my look clean and clear

1) Be aggressively **AWARE**
of your triggers.

Proverbs 4:23

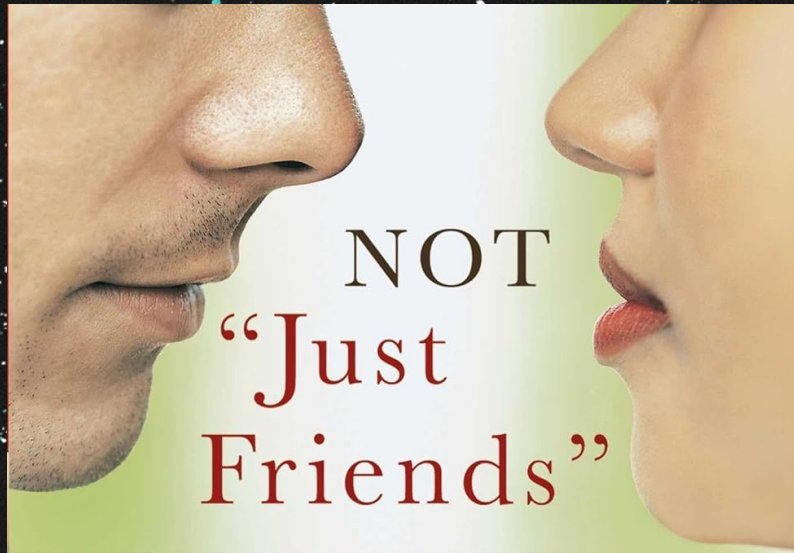
Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

Job 31:1 (NLT)

I made a covenant with my eyes not to look with lust at a young woman.

2 Peter 2:14

- They have eyes full of adultery, insatiable for sin. They entice unsteady souls. They have hearts trained in greed.



NOT "Just Friends"

Rebuilding Trust and Recovering
Your Sanity After Infidelity

"So illuminating, instructive, down-to-earth, and inspiring that it truly transforms lives. Since no marriage—including yours—is immune to infidelity, this book is a godsend."
—Michele Weiner-Davis, author of *The Sex-Starved Marriage*

Shirley P. Glass, Ph.D.
with Jean Coppock Staeheli

How to keep my look clean and clear

- 1) Be aggressively **AWARE** of your triggers.
- 2) Be aggressive in the **FIGHT**.

Matthew 5:29-30

“If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.”

Jesus is not advocating
mutilation,
but mortification.

If you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

—Romans 8:13

If you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. —Romans 8:13

So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Have nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. —Colossians 3:5 NLT

Matthew 5:6

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.”

2 Timothy 2:22

So **flee** youthful passions and **pursue** righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

Three ways to make a mess of your marriage

- 1) Make light of the Look**
- 2) Look for the easy out**

Deuteronomy 24:1

...a man takes a wife and marries her, if then she finds no favor in his eyes because he has **found some indecenty in her**, and he writes her a certificate of divorce...

– “[he may divorce her] even if he found another fairer than she.”

–Rabbi Akiba, Mishnah, Gittin 9:10

Most Common Reason for Divorce

- Lack of commitment (73%)
- Arguing (56%)
- Infidelity (55%)
- Marrying too young (46%)
- Unrealistic expectation (45%)
- Lack of equality (44%)

–*National Fatherhood Initiative*

Matthew 5:31-32

“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’³² But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.”

Matthew 5:32

“But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of **sexual immorality**, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.”

πορνεία > *porneia* = sexual deviation from God's original design – pornography, lustful looks, homosexuality, polyamory, etc.

Three ways to make a mess of your marriage

1) Make light of lust

2) Look for the easy out

3) Leave God out of your vows

Rule of Bible interpretation:
There is only one meaning,
but there are **many applications.**

Matthew 5:33-37

“Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’³⁴ But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,³⁵ or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.

Matthew 5:33-37

³⁶ “And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷ Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.”

James 5:12

But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

Zechariah 8:17

...love no false oath, for all these things I hate,
declares the LORD.

Matthew 19:6

“What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”

GOD

MIKE

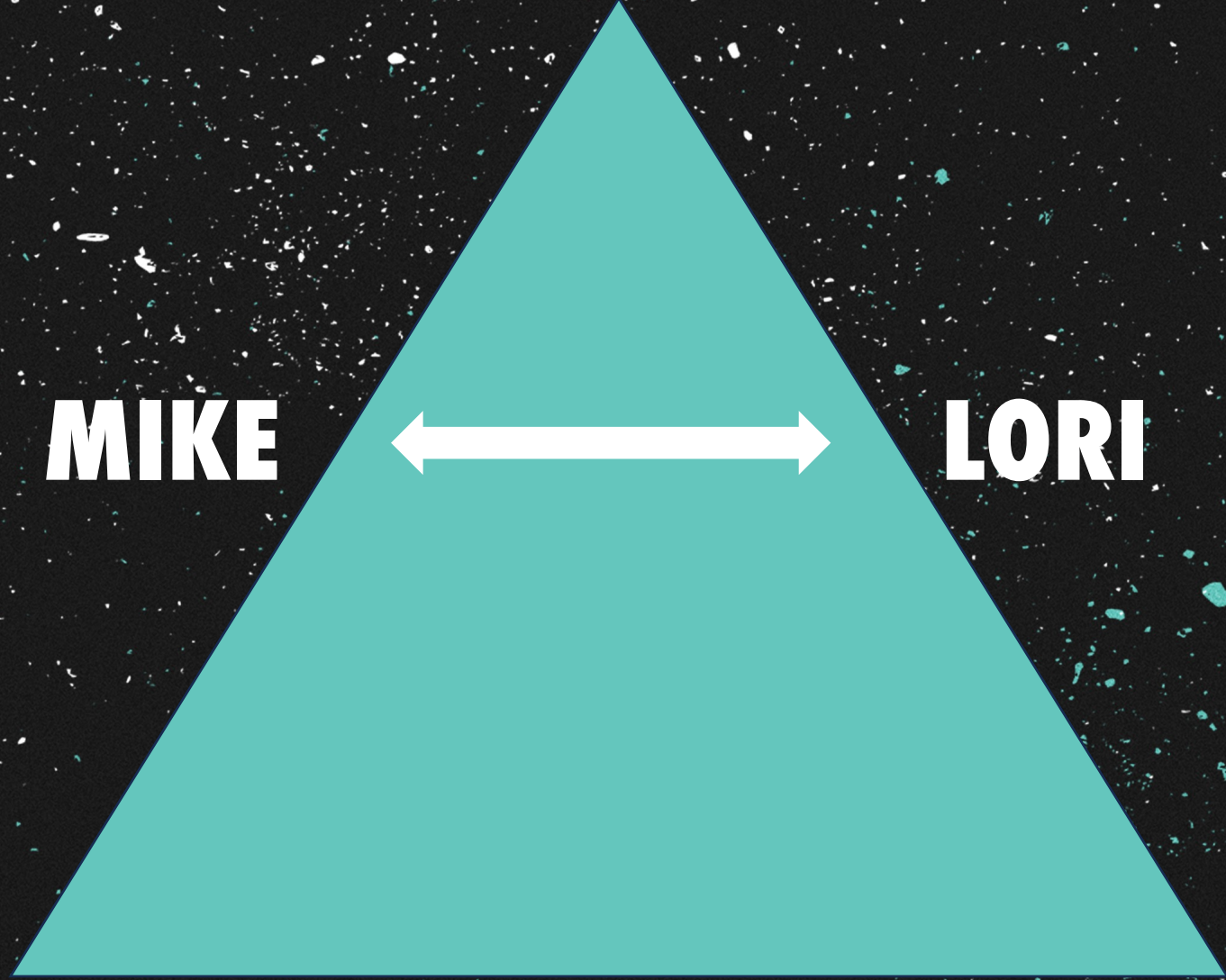
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Hebrews 4:15-16

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive **mercy** and find **grace** to help in time of need.