

SERMON ON THE MOUNT
Can't I At Least Look?
Matthew 5:27-30
Week 3 June 11, 2023
Pastor Mike Popovich

What is God's ultimate desire?
To reconcile the relationship with us.

**ADULTERY IS ALWAYS MORE THAN THE
PHYSICAL ACT!**

You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. Matthew 5:27-28 NIV

An act of adultery adulterates the mind, the heart and our relationships.

THE ACT IS BORN IN THE HEART.

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.

James 1:13-15 NAS

Actions of love come from a heart of love that is committed to the other person's best.

Acts of love cannot come from a heart consumed in lustful passion and fantasy.

**ADULTERY TOWARDS OTHERS LEADS TO ADULTERY
TOWARDS GOD.**

Son of dust, you must accuse Jerusalem and Samaria of all their awful deeds. For they have committed both adultery and murder; they have worshiped idols and murdered my children whom they bore to me, burning them as sacrifices on their altars.

On the same day they defiled my Temple and ignored my Sabbaths, for when they had murdered their children in front of their idols, then even that same day they actually came into my Temple to worship! That is how much regard they have for me! Ezekiel 23:36-39 LIV

Notice that adultery is not confined to human relationships. Our relationship to any other god or idol is referred to as adultery towards God.

Your deeds won't let you come to God again, for the spirit of adultery is deep within you, and you cannot know the Lord.

Hosea 5:4 LIV

**AVOID ADULTERATING YOUR HEART BY
DEFEATING THE TEMPTATION**

If your right eye causes you to sin, 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. And if your right 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 go into hell.

Matthew 5:29-30 NIV

Come and listen, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me. I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue. If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; but God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer. Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!

Psalms 66:16-20 NIV

If you cherish sin in your heart, your heart is adulterated.

**BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART,
FOR THEY WILL SEE GOD.**

Matthew 5:8 NIV