

GOSPEL COMMUNITY GUIDE

Life WITH God : The Ten Commandments

Exodus 20:14 | September 14, 2025



CONNECT

Pick one to answer: "Why do you think promises matter so much to us, even in everyday life?" or "What's one commitment you've made and kept - and you are glad you did?"

QUICK UPDATES

Share any upcoming church events and handle housekeeping for the Gospel Community.

REVIEW

Have someone read the passage out loud from the ESV translation or something similar. Reflect on any insights, questions, or parts that stood out from the text or the sermon. Then read the summary below.

Exodus 20:14 says, "You shall not commit adultery," a command that protects the covenant of marriage as God designed it - a one-flesh, lifelong union between husband and wife. Adultery is not just a private failure but a betrayal of that covenant and ultimately a sin against the God who is always faithful. Jesus deepens the command by showing that adultery begins in the heart, exposing how unfaithfulness takes root long before it shows itself outwardly. Yet where we have been unfaithful, Christ, the faithful Bridegroom, pursues His people with grace, forgiveness, and renewal. In Him we are freed and empowered to live as a faithful people who reflect the faithfulness of our God.

LEARN & LIVE

These questions help us grasp the truth of the passage and consider how to live it out.

- Read Exodus 20:1,14. How does hearing the command ("You shall not commit adultery") in light of the prologue ("I am the LORD... who brought you out...") shape the tone of the command? What's the practical difference in how we obey when rescue comes first?
- Read Genesis 2:24. What do "leave," "hold fast," and "one flesh" each communicate about covenant? Where do you see those actions reinforced in wedding vows or ongoing marital practice?
- In light of Genesis 2:24, why is sex inside the covenant "glue," but outside the covenant "fire out of the ring"? Name two concrete ways married couples can tend the "fire ring."
- Joseph says in Genesis 39:9, "How...can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?" What does that teach about the vertical dimension of sexual sin? How would remembering this change choices during a tempting moment this week?
- Read Matthew 5:27–28. What does Jesus identify as the root of adultery? List two everyday environments (phone, workplace, gym, shows, socials) where "lustful intent" can creep in, and one guardrail for each.
- The Westminster language calls for "chastity in body, mind, affections, words, and behavior." Pick one of those five and describe what obedience could look like Monday through Friday.
- Read Ephesians 5:25–27. What does Christ do for His bride (four verbs)? Which of those verbs encourages you most, and why?
- Read Hosea 2:19–20. What five qualities mark God's covenant love? Choose one that sticks out to you and share why?
- For singles: where could faithfulness to Christ reshape dating, boundaries, or media habits? Name a practice for the next 30 days.
- Read Revelation 19:6–8. "Fine linen... is the righteous deeds of the saints." How do present choices of faithfulness become part of the bride's "linen"? What is a "faithful deed" you will pursue this week.

- “Sin grows in the dark.” What is one specific step you will take to “drag it into the light” (confession to God, conversation with spouse, accountability with a pastor/friend, tech changes, counseling)? When will you do it?

GO DEEPER

These questions invite us to slow down and wrestle with what's going on beneath the surface. Use these to go a little deeper or in your Huddle Groups.

- Where does “the beginning of betrayal” tend to start for you: imagination, comparison, secrecy, emotional attachment, attention-seeking? What is the lie beneath it, and what gospel truth confronts that lie?
- C.S. Lewis says sex outside marriage isolates one type of union from the others. In your story, where are you tempted to want benefits of union without the cost of covenantal self-giving? How might you repent toward whole-person faithfulness?
- What are the subtle ways you may seek attention, affirmation, or intimacy through ways that are unwise and unhealthy, regardless of being married or single?
- What fears or wounds make it hard for you to trust God’s design for sex and marriage?
- What is one area where shame still whispers “you are your failure,” and how does the gospel answer that lie?
- When you think of God as your faithful Husband (Hosea, Ephesians 5), what stirs up resistance or discomfort in you?
- Think about times you’ve experienced God pursuing you even when you were unfaithful. How does remembering that shape your present walk with Him?
- What practice could help you guard your heart and imagination this week, before temptation grows roots?
- Imagine yourself at the wedding feast of the Lamb (Revelation 19). What would you thank your present self for choosing or resisting today?
- **How is the Spirit inviting you personally to respond and what will you do differently this week?**

PRAY

- Pray about one way God spoke to you tonight through His Word.
- Pray by name for someone in your life who doesn’t yet know Jesus.
- Pray for the needs of those in the group.
- Pray for this ministry area of Redeemer: **THE LOST in OUR LIVES I** Take time tonight to pray for someone God has placed near you who doesn’t yet know Jesus. Pray for them by name. If time allows, briefly share (2–3 minutes) how your life is intersecting with theirs.

5 GROUP DISCUSSION RULES

We want to be full of grace as we meet, deepening our relationship with one another and with Christ. These five values help us know our **P.L.A.C.E.** in our GC’s and Huddles.

1. **Pray** - Prayer is a space for confession, struggle, and praise. Keep requests focused on yourself and your immediate family, so we can pray specifically and personally.
2. **Listen** - Be present and attentive. Share with humility, be mindful of time, and remember: silence is okay.
3. **Apply** - Answer honestly. Consider how God’s Word speaks into your life, and what it might look like to respond.
4. **Confess** - Confession and repentance are signs of maturity. We meet one another with grace, not shame.
5. **Encourage** - Practical advice is helpful, but truth is better. Speak the gospel into each other’s hearts and stories.

COMMENTARY EXCERPT:

20:14 Seventh commandment. - In God’s order of priority, the sanctity of human life is followed by the importance of the marriage relationship. Adultery here means sexual relations between a married woman and a man who is not her husband. Those caught in adultery could be executed (Lv. 20:10; Dt. 22:22). Relations between a married man and an unmarried woman do not qualify as adultery. Hence polygamy is not automatically excluded by this commandment, although in practice it was rare in OT times. Similarly, divorce was permitted, but not encouraged. The NT teaching on marriage is, in certain respects, more demanding, reflecting more closely God’s ideal for human marriage as expressed in Gn. 2:24; polygamy, a husband’s adultery and possibly remarriage are all prohibited (cf. Mt. 19:3–12; Mk. 10:2–12; Lk. 16:18). As a whole, the Bible reveals that God desires the establishment of harmonious marital relationships and that neither partner should do anything to undermine this. *Alexander, T. D. (1994). Exodus. In D. A. Carson, R. T. France, J. A. Motyer, & G. J. Wenham (Eds.), New Bible commentary: 21st century edition (4th ed., p. 108). Inter-Varsity Press.*