



Sermon Discussion Questions

Matthew 5:27-30 // The Old Way

- As we begin these four weeks looking at what Jesus has to say about sex, sexuality, and marriage, what are you hoping you get out of these weeks? What topics do you feel the church really needs to cover?
- How important is it to understand the background beliefs Jesus held in order to understand what he's teaching us?
- Pastor Joey said that there are at least three background beliefs behind Jesus's teaching. How would you summarize the three?
- Of the three (embodied souls, marriage as one-flesh union, sex only makes sense inside a marriage), which did you find the most challenging? Which did you already take for granted?
- How does the fact that human beings are "embodied souls" affect the way we think about sex and sexuality?
- What's the difference between marriage as a "covenantal, comprehensive union" and marriage as a "romantic union of hearts and minds, strengthened by whatever form of sexual intimacy the partners find agreeable?"
- Which of those two definitions of marriage do you find the most compelling? Why or why not?
- How has the changing definition of marriage affected the way the church teaches about and practices marriage?
- How would you explain to somewhat what a covenantal, comprehensive union is?

- Which definition of marriage have you lived out in your own life, or seen lived out in the lives of people close to you?
- Why does Jesus believe that sex only makes sense within a one-flesh marriage covenant?
- What does sexual intimacy symbolically represent? Why is that important to how we live out our sexuality?
- What do you need to do or change in your life to live out more faithfully the biblical vision of humanity, marriage, and sexuality?

