

THE KING SPEAKS

a Study in the Sermon On The Mount | Discussion Guide

Week 5 – October 14

The Look | Matthew 5:27-32

Introduction

When it comes to topics that permeate everyday culture the topic that Jesus addresses in Matthew 5:27-32 is definitely right at the top of the relevancy list in our day.

That said, Jesus, in typical fashion drives through one topic to get to an even greater issue that if addressed has the potential to lead a person to live the kind of life that Jesus is pointing the crowd to live in the Sermon on the Mount.

Read Matthew 5:27-32 before beginning this week's study.

Questions for Study

1. Jesus uses some very strong language in this passage. Why is it that He paints such a graphic picture? What is at stake? When a person lusts after another person what is the greater issue that is being expressed in the act of lusting after someone else?
2. Looking back on your life how has this subject of 'adultery' and 'lust' influenced your own life?
3. Describe what you see in our culture and the battle that is raging against sexual purity for both men and women.
4. Notice that Jesus drives straight to the heart. Why is this so significant and what kind of application should it lead us to? (See also Proverbs 14:30)
5. What would a disciple today need to do in order to transform their attitude toward lust into one that is in sync with the teaching of Jesus here?
6. Why do you think Jesus set such a high bar as it relates to this topic? Reflect on how He "sees" people. If we began to see people as Jesus did (as God's treasured creation), how might we think of this subject in a new light?
7. In our pursuit of moral purity (with the motivation to honor Jesus), are there practical things that you've found to be helpful? Thinking of the staggering statistics surrounding pornography alone, are there wise things that you could do to safeguard you and your family?