

### **Adultery In The Heart**

**27 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 lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.**

**29 If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.**

**30 If your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to go into hell.**

**31 It was said, 'Whoever sends his wife away, let him give her a certificate of divorce'; 32 but I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for the reason of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.**

### **Job 31:1-12**

**"I have made a covenant with my eyes; How then could I gaze at a young woman? For what is our lot from God above, our heritage from the Almighty on high? Is it not ruin for the wicked, disaster for those who do wrong? Does He not see my ways and count me every step?**

**If I have walked with falsehood or my foot has buried after deceit - let God weigh me in honest scales and He will know that I am blameless - if my steps have turned from the path, if my heart has been led by my eyes, or if my hands have been defiled, then may others eat what I have sown, and may my crops be uprooted.**

**If my heart has been enticed by a woman, or it I have lurked at my neighbor's door then my wife may grind another man's grain and may other men sleep with her. For that would have been wicked, a sin to be judged. It is a fire that burns to destruction, it would have uprooted my harvest.**

## start reading. read together the main scripture for this study

### reading #1

In reading these verses of scripture, what would you circle, highlight, or underline as important to know or understand? Is there anything you noticed for the first time?

***What is one word or phrase the Holy Spirit impresses upon you? Meditate on that.***

## start thinking. ask a thoughtful question

Both murder and adultery are not isolated behaviors. They have "roots" - often related to anger or contempt. At some point in life a seed was planted (negatively) that took root and bore its unhealthy (sinful) fruit - murder or adultery / anger or lust.

This past Sunday, we worshipped and prayed through new seeds being planted that would transplant every selfish desire - *♪ all my desires reversed to keep the first things first ♪*

επιθυμία - *epithumia* - lust : strong desire

**Why does God care about the desires of our heart?** (Psalm 37:4, Galatians 5:16-24 2 Thess. 1:11, Titus 2:12)

## start sharing. engage it with your story

***What specific situation in your life relates? Write down or pray.***

***What did the Holy Spirit speak to you personally about during the sermon? Was there anything that caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?***

**What do you believe God is planting into your life today...what kind of "seed"?**

~ Is this seeds planted in order to "uproot" an unhealthy plant (desire)?

**How will you cultivate your heart, so that the seed grows and does not die or is not stolen? (Matt. 13:1-23)**

## start practicing. commit to a next step and live it out this week

***What is Jesus' personal invitation to you from the scripture? You can write down what God may be saying to you or a prayer of thanks.***

**What spiritual discipline might help cultivate new desires in your heart?**

## start praying. be bold and pray with power

prayer requests: