

King Jesus Gospel _ Ep. 6

Who are you becoming?

Jesus wants us to follow Him into relationship with the Creator bringing us satisfaction. Satan wants to fool us into settling for pleasure of the creation bringing slavery.

Matthew 5:27

"You have heard the commandment that says, 'You must not commit adultery.'

Marriage points us to a larger story.

Married Sex is a gift from God.

Romans 1:20-32 NLT

"For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God. Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused. Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools. And instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols made to look like mere people and birds and animals and reptiles. So God abandoned them to do whatever shameful things their hearts desired. As a result, they did vile and degrading things with each other's bodies. They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen. That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires. Even the women turned against the natural way to have sex and instead indulged in sex with each other. And the men, instead of having normal sexual relations with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men, and as a result of this sin, they suffered within themselves the penalty they deserved. Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done. Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents. They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy. They know God's justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too."

Matthew 5:28

But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

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1 Corinthians 6:12-20 (NLT)

¹² You say, "I am allowed to do anything"—but not everything is good for you. And even though "I am allowed to do anything," I must not become a slave to anything. ¹³ You say, "Food was made for the stomach, and the stomach for food." (This is true, though someday God will do away with both of them.) But you can't say that our bodies were made for sexual immorality. They were made for the Lord, and the Lord cares about our bodies. ¹⁴ And God will raise us from the dead by his power, just as he raised our Lord from the dead.

¹⁵ Don't you realize that your bodies are actually parts of Christ? Should a man take his body, which is part of Christ, and join it to a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶ And don't you realize that if a man joins himself to a prostitute, he becomes one body with her? For the Scriptures say, "The two are united into one." ¹⁷ But the person who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

¹⁸ Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body. ¹⁹ Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, ²⁰ for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body.

Appetite is not the problem, content we feed the appetite and being controlled by the appetite is the problem.

James 1:15

Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Attraction is not the sin, the action is the sin.

Matthew 5:29 — 30

So if your eye—even your good eye—causes you to lust, 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. 30 And if your hand—even your stronger 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 be thrown into hell.

Jesus offers us a pathway of formation instead of the paradigm of fear or illusion of freedom.

PRACTICING THE WAY

As disciples of Jesus, we know our allegiance to Him as King is expressed in our daily practice. We are not pursuing perfection, but want to practice our faith each day. These practices will point you toward spiritual formation as an apprentice (disciple) to Jesus.

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Read through the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John), slowly.

Meditate on each phrase of this Gospel summary:

The Gospel is the good news that God our Father, the Creator, out of His great love for us, has come to rescue us from sin, Satan, death and hell, and to renew all things, in and through the work of Jesus Christ on our behalf, to establish His kingdom, through His people who participate in loyal allegiance in the power of the Holy Spirit. This is for God's great glory, and our profound joy.

Talk it Over (with friends, a spouse, or connect group)

- Read Matthew 5:27-30. Sunday's message was about learning to deal with the root of our disordered desires. Did anything speak to you or stir a question within you?
- Why does God care about what we do with our bodies?
- Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-20. What are these verses saying to you? What are some of the dangers to not resolving our anger?
- Read Romans 1:20-32. What are some of the ways God reveals Himself in creation?
- Gifts from God are meant to create gratitude and joy from us. What are some things you are grateful to God for giving you?

