



## The Principle of Intimacy

### Robert Morris

**Focus** God's seventh commandment is "You shall not commit adultery." God is a Trinity and we are also three parts. It is possible to commit adultery in body, soul, and spirit.

**Fun** What is your earliest road trip memory? How would you compare the car and road conditions then to our present day?

**Review** Key Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 6:15–20; Proverbs 6:32; Genesis 2:24; Matthew 5:27–28

#### 1. **Body**

Sexual immorality is sin against your own body, which is to be kept as the temple of the Holy Spirit. God formed our sexual parts to fit together perfectly to experience sexual pleasure in marriage. An intimate relationship with God is enhanced when we honor God's principle of sexual intimacy only inside of marriage.

#### 2. **Soul**

We can have a wrong relationship with someone in our mind and emotions. We make decisions based on our thoughts and feelings, and when we look at someone other than our spouse lustfully or with unrestrained imagination, Jesus said it is adultery.

#### 3. **Spirit**

A husband and wife become one flesh when they are joined together in marriage. Adultery causes a spouse to leave and join with someone else spiritually, which also breaks oneness with God. Premarital sex also causes spiritual separation from the Lord and creates inappropriate appetites and

habits. Any sexual immorality causes you to spiritually join with demonic spirits that can destroy your life. The good news is that God can redeem and restore!

**\*Group Dynamics Idea\*** Remind married group members of the importance of praying specifically with and for their spouse. Ask single members to dedicate a special time with the Lord to pursue Him, His thoughts, and His ways.

## Discuss

1. God created sex and He formed our sexual parts for intimacy only with our spouse. Discuss how Song of Solomon 3:5 confirms this truth.
2. Jesus mentioned in Luke 22:15 that He had fervent desire to eat Passover with His disciples. What is the difference between good and bad lust?
3. The New Testament tells us that Jesus grew up and matured as a human while living a pure life. In what ways does this encourage and show us how to do the same?
4. Read Proverbs 6:32. What does it mean for an adulterer to destroy his own soul?
5. Why is sexual immorality a sin against one's own body? How does this affect being one with Christ in body and spirit?
6. When a person commits adultery, what doors are opened to demons?
7. Job 31:1 says "I have made a covenant with my eyes." How can we make the same covenant? Why does it make purity easier to maintain?

**Take Home** As we conclude, remember the following:

- The "Thou shalt nots" in the Ten Commandments are there to give us a happy and fulfilled life in God.
- If you commit adultery, you will no longer have an intimate relationship with your spouse or with God.
- Confession and repentance of sexual immorality to God brings the darkness into God's light, and God can redeem and restore intimacy.

- We keep our body as the temple of the Holy Spirit when we choose to obey God's principles.
- Intimacy with God increases as we cling to Him in our soul and spirit.

### **Prayer**

Lord, You are faithful in all Your ways. We want to be faithful to You in body, soul, and spirit. Lead us into greater intimacy with the Holy Spirit. We cleave to You and walk on Your path. Your perfect love has redeemed us and keeps us until the glorious day when we see You face to face. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**\*New Leader Tip\*** When reading the Word of God, your group members may have different reactions to the same truth. Pray for gentleness for those who are hurting and conviction for those who have doubt. Intimacy with God will sharpen your discernment. Ask Him to fill your mouth with words that speak of His great love.