



Homegroup Material Sunday 8th September, Jesus said what?! About Pornography?

Bible Passages: *Matthew 5:27–30; John 8:34–36*

Pray.

Discuss: (if you were around on Sunday) How did you feel listening to a sermon on porn in church?

How might a visitor have felt?

[Read Matthew 5:17]

1. How does this verse help us understand what Jesus is doing in vv.27–30?

[Read Matthew 5:27–30]

2. In what sense is this teaching of Jesus “surpassing that of the Pharisees” (v.20)?
3. How does Jesus’ teaching on lust differ from that of contemporary society?

You might also like to discuss this from Louise Perry (*The Case Against the Sexual Revolution*): “Every society requires that some kinds of sexual impulse be repressed – what varies is where the line is drawn...we should not assume that any given feeling we discover in our hearts (or loins) ought to be acted upon”

4. Who benefits most from Jesus’ teaching on lust?
[you might like to compare this with who ‘benefits’ and loses most from the porn industry]
5. God is not against sexual desire and attraction (have a read of Song of Songs!). How can we distinguish between appropriate sexual desire and lust? Does Jesus’ teaching give us any help here?
6. Jesus could not take this issue of sexual sin more seriously (cf. v.29–30!). On Sunday Tim commented on this suggesting that: “His teaching is based on the idea that eternity is more important than time; that purity is more important than culture. We have to decide pretty straightforwardly whether to live for this world or the next, for ourselves, or Jesus.”

What might it look like to put Jesus' teaching into practice in this area of our lives? [*NB he is not talking literally about self-mutilation*].

7. Many people carry huge shame from their sexual sin.
How do these two different truths help us in this?

- i. **Romans 3:23**

- ii. **Romans 5:8**

How can we encourage those who are feeling ashamed? Can you think of other bible verses or truths to share?

Tim Lewis