

## The Sermon on the Mount, Part 1 (6 of 10) Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the recent sermons page at our website and at the Grantham Church Podcast the following day, along with the sermon slides and small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

**Sunday, October 12th, 2025**



### Sermon Series Summary

Matthew 5-7 is known as the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus went up a mountain and a large crowd gathered to hear him preach a powerful message—proclaiming the gospel of the Kingdom and casting a vision of what it looks like to live in right relationship with God, our neighbors, and our enemies. These three chapters contain the core of Jesus’ teachings and his most well-known sayings, including some of the most rigorous ethical demands in the Bible. Join us for Part 1 of this series (Sept 7-Nov 9), as we explore the message and implications of Jesus’ invitation to enter the narrow gate and follow him.

**Sermon Title:** Beauty, Marriage, and Sexual Desire

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 5:27-30; Colossians 3:5-6; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

**Sermon Focus:** As the definitive interpreter of Scripture, Jesus shows us how he interprets the Law with six case studies in Matthew 5:21-48. As we saw last week, he begins with the commandment, “Do not murder” (Ex. 20:13). In the sixth message of our series, we’re going to hear how Jesus points us beyond the commandment “Do not commit adultery” (Ex. 20:14), to confront *lust* in the human heart. Listen as Pastor David invites us to accept God’s wisdom for beauty, marriage, and sexual desire.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Begin by reading Matthew 5:27-30. Take a minute or two to read it silently and then have someone read it aloud. What are your initial thoughts about what Jesus is saying about adultery and lust? What is God saying to you?
2. Even after hearing some shocking statistics about porn usage today, some people would prefer that we not give attention to passages like this that deal with sexual desire and sexual sins. Why do you think that is? What might be some of the reasons for avoiding a sermon, Bible lesson, or group discussion about lust and adultery? Do those reasons justify not talking about it?
3. It's significant that Jesus addresses lust in the Sermon on the Mount. While this might be a topic more comfortably discussed in a same gender setting, we encourage your group to discuss the topic *generally* with love, patience, and grace. This is a good time for men and women to share how lust personally affects them, so you can hear from each other. For example, men, how do you see other men struggling with this on a regular basis? What's it like for men? And women, do you think women deal with lust? Also, if you're willing, share how the lust of men makes you feel. Allow the Lord to lead this conversation as you see yourselves and talk to one another as brothers and sisters in Christ.
4. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 and Colossians 3:5-6. Jesus and Paul agree that lust and sexual immorality (*porneia*) is a serious matter that disciples need to address. As Jesus said in Matthew 5:29-30, we must take drastic action when dealing with lust. While sin is sin, regardless of what it is, why do you think sexual desires and sexual sins seem to be weightier and more destructive? Start by sharing what you've observed in your life, in your family, and in the world.
5. LIFE ON MISSION QUESTION: Imagine a world where disciples of Jesus loved God and neighbor well, including our resistance to objectifying others. How is the Spirit inviting you to be more intentional with your eyes, thoughts, and words regarding the opposite sex? Also, what ways can the church show the world that we want no part in lust, sexual fantasy, objectifying others, etc.?

**NOTE:** If you're struggling with lust or pornography, go back to the sermon slide (posted with the sermon at the website) that lists the spiritual disciplines and communal practices. Implement those into your life. And if you're not a part of an intentional discipleship group, and would like to be, please contact Pastor Melissa.