

Sixth Commandment—Adultery



“You shall not commit adultery.”

— Exodus 20:14

SIXTH COMMANDMENT:

You shall not commit adultery.

FOCUS THIS WEEK

We are commanded to keep all our words and conduct pure and honorable with regard to marriage and sex. What does this mean to a teenager living in a world bombarded with sex? Even if you’re too young to be thinking about marriage, what does it mean to be “true” to one another in relationships? We are commanded to be “true” and save ourselves for our spouse—no one else.



SHARE

highs and lows to set the stage for a more open and meaningful discussion.



READ

and highlight the theme verse, Exodus 20:14, then connect it to one or more of the following texts:

- Genesis 1:31a
- Matthew 19:5-6 1
- Corinthians 6:19-20



TALK

about how the Bible reading might relate to today’s highs and lows. Supplement your discussion with some of the following.

A. IMAGES IN WORDS AND ART Take a look at the theme art and cartoons. What do you see in the art? Ask youth where they are in the art. How might the art and the theme verse apply to your highs and lows today?

B. ROLE PLAY

1. A friend says: “OK, I believe adultery is wrong, but I’m not married. This commandment doesn’t say anything about sex outside of marriage with another unmarried person.” What do you say?
2. You suspect a friend has an emotionally or physically unsafe relationship. What do you say?

C. QUESTIONS TO PONDER

1. What does this ancient commandment on adultery have to do with teenagers living today?
2. According to I John 1:9, if someone is guilty of a sexual sin, what should he or she do?
3. What are some ways to keep temptation from getting control of your life?

D. QUOTATIONS Choose a quotation and share their thoughts and questions about it.

What's love got to do with it?

Tina Turner

Like nitroglycerin, sex can be used either to blow up bridges or to heal hearts.

Frederick Buechner

Do not do what you would undo if caught.

Leah Arendt

E. TERMS OF THE WEEK Review these key terms and write definitions.

Adultery: Voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and anyone other than his or her lawful spouse.

Honorable: Worthy, deserving reverence. Our sex lives are to be honorable.

Pure: Clean, free from dirt or pollution. Our sexual lives are to be pure.

F. WRAP UP Summarize the event with your group, assigning someone to share what you learned at closing.

- One new thing we learned today
- One thing we already knew that is worth repeating
- One thing we would like to know more about



PRAY

for one another. Praise and thank God for your highs. Ask the Holy Spirit to be with you in your lows. Include your friend's highs and lows in your prayers. Invite youth to think of something going on in the world that calls for prayer.



BLESS

one another by name. Trace a cross on each hand or forehead. Look them in the eyes and give them a smile. Ask for their blessing as well!