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GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Looking with Lustful Intent (Matthew 5:27–30)

TEACHING SUMMARY

- Yeshua said that looking at a woman “with lustful intent” is adultery of the heart (Matthew 5:27-28).
- This is not raising the Law to an impossible standard; Yeshua truly expects obedience (Matthew 5:19).
- The commandment is rooted in the **Tenth Commandment**: “You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife” (Exodus 20:17).
- In Greek, “lust” (epithumeó) = “covet.” Yeshua condemns not natural desire but **coveting what is forbidden**.
- Sexual desire itself is good when directed toward marriage; sin arises when we fixate on what belongs to another.
- Coveting = intentional focusing of desire on forbidden things (James 1:14–15).
- Yeshua’s illustrations about tearing out an eye or cutting off a hand emphasize the **seriousness of sin** and the need to deal with its true source — the heart (Matthew 15:19).
- Modern application: Pornography and lust are forms of coveting; they misuse God’s gift of sex. God’s Spirit empowers us to resist (Galatians 5:16–24; Romans 8:4).
- Yeshua calls us not to “look in order to covet.”

FILL-IN-THE-BLANKS

1. Yeshua said that everyone who looks at a woman with _____ has already committed adultery in his heart (Matthew 5:28).
2. The Tenth Commandment says, “You shall not _____ your neighbor’s wife” (Exodus 20:17).

3. In Greek, the same word is used for “lust” in Matthew 5:28 and for “_____” in Exodus 20:17.
 4. Coveting means strongly desiring something that is _____.
 5. James 1:14–15 teaches that _____ leads to sin, and sin leads to _____.
 6. Yeshua taught that adultery begins in the _____ before it becomes action (Matthew 15:19).
 7. Sexual desire itself is not sinful; it is good when directed toward one’s _____.
 8. Pornography misuses God’s gift of sex and leads to _____ in the heart.
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FILL-IN-THE-BLANKS (Challenging)

1. Yeshua said He did not come to abolish the _____ but to fulfill it (Matthew 5:17).
 2. According to Yeshua, removing an _____ or a _____ would be better than being thrown into hell (Matthew 5:29–30).
 3. Adultery of the heart is rooted in _____, not merely external action.
 4. The Greek grammar of Matthew 5:28 emphasizes looking “in order to _____.”
 5. Yeshua’s words call us to address sin at its true source: the _____.
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GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the difference between natural sexual desire and sinful lust?
 2. How does Yeshua connect His teaching with the Tenth Commandment?
 3. Why is coveting at the heart of adultery?
 4. How do Yeshua’s illustrations about tearing out the eye or cutting off the hand emphasize the seriousness of sin?
 5. What does this passage teach us about pornography in today’s culture?
 6. How can we walk by the Spirit to overcome the desires of the flesh?
 7. Why is it encouraging that Yeshua did not set up an impossible standard?
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FOR FURTHER STUDY

- The Tenth Commandment and Coveting
 - Yeshua and the Sermon on the Mount
 - Purity of Heart in Scripture
 - Pornography and Holiness
 - Galatians 5: Walking by the Spirit
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ANSWER KEY – Group Guide

FILL-IN-THE-BLANKS

1. Lustful intent
2. Covet
3. Covet
4. Forbidden
5. Desire / Death
6. Heart
7. Spouse (wife or husband)
8. Fornication (or sin)

Challenging

1. Law (Torah)
2. Eye / Hand
3. Coveting
4. Covet her
5. Heart