



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

3 FEBRUARY

GOOD BOOK: HOMOPHOBIC

This study guide should be used the week following the sermon it supplements.

MAIN TEXT: *Matthew 5:27-28, 15:19-20 and 19:3-12*

5 27 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ **28** But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

15 19 For from the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, all sexual immorality, theft, lying, and slander. **20** These are what defile you. Eating with unwashed hands will never defile you.

19 3 Some Pharisees came and tried to trap him with this question: “Should a man be allowed to divorce his wife for just any reason?” **4** “Haven’t you read the Scriptures?” Jesus replied. “They record that from the beginning ‘God made them male and female.’” **5** And he said, “This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.’ **6** Since they are no longer two but one, let no one split apart what God has joined together.” **7** “Then why did Moses say in the law that a man could give his wife a written notice of divorce and send her away?” they asked. **8** Jesus replied, “Moses permitted divorce only as a concession to your hard hearts, but it was not what God had originally intended. **9** And I tell you this, whoever divorces his wife and marries someone else commits adultery—unless his wife has been unfaithful.” **10** Jesus’ disciples then said to him, “If this is the case, it is better not to marry!” **11** “Not everyone can accept this statement,” Jesus said. “Only those whom God helps. **12** Some are born as eunuchs, some have been made eunuchs by others, and some choose not to marry for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven. Let anyone accept this who can.”

COMING UP

10 Feb – Church Family Meeting
 17 Feb – Equip Academy begins (sign up on the app)
 18 Feb – Alpha starts
 27 Feb – Monthly Prayer Meeting
 4, 11, Mar – CAP Money

***B.L.E.S.S. means:** Begin with Prayer, Listen with care Eat together, Serve with love, Share Jesus Stories. For more info see westminsterchapel.org.uk/bless.

GETTING STARTED

We want to develop and strengthen a healthy culture of encouragement at Chapel, so each week we’ll start our LG’s by sharing something we want to thank God for: an encouraging thing He’s doing in our lives, or in the lives of others. What ways have you been able to B.L.E.S.S.* those around you in recent weeks?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Why does Jesus talk so much about people’s hearts? Why is that so important when discussing topics like sex and sexuality?
2. On Sunday, Sam said that our sexual integrity is so precious to Jesus that He doesn’t want it to be violated by anyone, even in the privacy of their own mind. What did he mean by that? And why is it so empowering for all of us?
3. What basic principles does Jesus refer to when He talks about marriage? Why is it important to start with these, before we get into specific details?
4. What is it about Jesus that makes Him worth giving up everything else and following? (*maybe go round the room, listing 2 things each*)
5. ‘If you think the cost of discipleship for your same-sex-attracted friends is too high, then you might think it’s too high for anyone and may not have counted the cost in your own life’. What is your reaction to this statement? What does counting the cost look like for you?
6. What does Jesus mean in John 6:35 when He claims to be ‘the bread of life’? Why is that good news to everyone, no matter what their sexuality?

NEXT STEPS AND PRAYER

Are you weary and in need of rest? Are you confused and in need of certainty? Are you guilty and in need of forgiveness? Are you sceptical and wondering if there is anything solid out there that you can plant your feet on? – then come to Jesus.

Take time to reflect and then pray with and for one another.