

***PRECEPTS FOR LIFE***  
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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

**SERIES: A Marriage Without Regrets**

**TITLE: Program 38 – Untangling The Mess When Your Mate Has  
Committed Adultery**

**WEDNESDAY**

**OPEN**

Your mate has committed adultery. You are angry. You are furious. How could you do this? Why did you do this? You feel violated. Your trust has been broken. It seems like everything has been just shattered into smithereens. And you wonder, can we put it back together again? Is there anything we can do? Is there any hope? How could you do this to me? How could you do this to our children? And you're just frustrated.

**PART ONE**

Your mate has committed adultery and your world has fallen apart. What are you going to do, Beloved? Where are you going to run? How are you going to handle this? Because all of a sudden, everything is different. Everything has changed, because that covenant of marriage has been broken because your husband or your wife has slept with another person and you've just

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found out. When you find out that there has been adultery on the part of your mate, the first thing you need to do, Beloved, before you do anything, before you get into deep conversations, before you start deciding what you are going to do, before you storm, before you fuss, before you get hysterical, do this: Get on your knees and talk to God. Maybe you have a friend and the friend has called you and they have just told you this news. Maybe you're sitting at a luncheon and one of the business men leans over and says, "Excuse me, I've got to leave. I am sick and I can't stay here." And then he whispers, "My wife has committed adultery and I don't know how I'm going to handle it and I can't think of anything else." What do you do? You get on your knees and you talk to God. And the reason that you talk to God is because God understands. You need to talk to God, but you need to also let God talk to you. Get into the book of Jeremiah. Read the first ten chapters of Jeremiah. Read Ezekiel, chapter 16 and as you read the prophets and read the book of Hosea, mark every reference to adultery or harlotry. Just take a red pen and write an "H" over harlotry or an "A" over adultery. And see what God says about this. Listen to God. Because, do you see as you read that God is married to Israel? God found Israel as an infant. He says, "In the field, cast off, abandoned, no one cared for her." She grew up and it was the time for love and God says, "I came and I spread My skirt over you. I took you as my wife. You became my wife." And He said, "I loved you." In Jeremiah, chapter 2, He says, "Do you remember our betrothal? Do you remember when we were engaged and how you followed Me in the wilderness and how you trusted Me?" He says, "What's happened? What's happened?" In Ezekiel 16, He says, "You adulterous wife who has taken men, strangers, other than your husband." God understands. And so as you go through and as you read those prophets, Jeremiah and Ezekiel and Hosea, you will find out that there is a God who can empathize with you. Not just sympathize with you, not just say, "Oh, I'm sorry and I know that must be terrible." But to empathize with you because He's been there. And He says,

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“I know your pain. I know you’re hurt. I know your grief. I know your sorrow, because I have been there.” So before you do anything, before you make any decisions, before you react, take this action: Go to God. Get in the Scriptures and just say, “I am hurting. I am reeling.” And if you mark, that will help you concentrate. It will help you focus. And when your mind goes to this adulterous affair, just bring it back and say, “God, I’ll think about that later. I’m going to see what You say now.” Then the second thing you need to do is you need to talk to your mate, the one that has committed adultery. And you need to see, is there a genuine grief over that adultery? Is there a godly sorrow over that adultery? Not a worldly sorrow. There’s a worldly sorrow and that means, I am so sorry you found out. I’m so sorry you found the note. I’m so sorry you found the receipts. I’m sorry you picked up the email. I am so sorry I got caught. That is a worldly sorrow. But I’m talking about a godly sorrow. So you see if there is a godly sorrow there. You see if there’s a repentance. Now what is a repentance? A repentance is a change of mind. And a change of mind was at one time you thought you could commit adultery. You thought you were in love. You thought you could get away with this. You thought that somehow you could work it out. Or you thought that somehow you could keep a secret. But repentance is, “This is wrong. I’m crazy. What have I done?” And so repentance is a change of mind about this. A woman wrote me a letter. And in the letter she shared how her husband has come back home, but he is still in love with the other woman. So often men feel so guilty for leaving the other woman. They feel so bad because here she is in this dire strait and it seems like they’re not thinking about you at all, who has grown with him all these years, who has borne his children, who has helped him along in his career, and has taken care of his house and taken care of him. It’s crazy. It’s insane. So the second thing you need to do is you need to find out where is that mate in respect to adultery. Do they see it as a transgression against you? Do they see that they have revolted against you, that they have broken the bonds of marriage, that they

have broken this physical oneness with you? So you have to see. Number one: have they repented? And number two: are they not sorry about it and you've just found out? So let's look at number two first. Let's see what do you do if you're dealing with a mate who is not sorry for their adultery, but they have confessed it and now you are both aware of it. Jeremiah, chapter 2, and in Jeremiah, chapter 2, in verse 20, this is what he says. "And you said, 'I will not serve.'" So here is God's adulterous wife saying to Him, "I don't want to serve you anymore. I don't want to follow you anymore." He says, "For on every high hill and under every green tree you have lain down as a harlot." You've said, "I don't want to serve you. I don't want to be in this marriage anymore." And so you've come along and you've played the harlot. He says, "How can you say, 'I'm not defiled, I have not gone after the Baals'?" Now they had played the harlot with their idols. They had chosen to have someone in their life that was more important than their husband. And that's what adultery is. You choose another over your mate and you say, "This person is more important to me right now than my mate." And therefore you go after them and you sleep with them and you care for them and you love them, and you take care of them and you speak sweet nothings to them and you just carry on with them, as you should be carrying with your husband or with your wife. Now, he says, "You have said, 'I'm not defiled.'" In other words if this person is saying, "I'm sorry, but I don't see anything wrong with this" or "I'm sorry, but I don't love you anymore. I'm sorry, but I just love her. I'm sorry, but I just love him." Or as this one husband wrote me and he said, "Please, I don't know what to do about my wife. She's gone to church with me. She's studied the Word of God with me. But she turned around and looked at me and said, 'I am 32 years old and I just don't want to live in this marriage anymore. And I don't want the responsibility of our two children. I want a life of my own.'" And she walked away, thinking that it was all right with God. And this is what Israel's saying, "I'm not defiled..." He says, "...I have not gone after

Baals.” He says, “Look in the valley...” Look at what you have done. “...You are a swift young camel entangling her ways, a wild donkey accustomed to the wilderness that sniffs the wind in her passion. In the time of her heat who can turn her away? All who seek her will not become weary.” In other words, there’s a scent of adultery about her. And this may be what your husband has committed adultery with, a woman that has a scent of adultery with her. Or your wife may have walked away with a scent of adultery about her that attracts other men. Just like this donkey, it says, “All who seek her will not become weary. In her month they will find her.” He says, “Keep your feet from being unshod and your throat from thirst.” He says, “But you have said, ‘It’s hopeless!’” The marriage is over. “Yes, I’ve committed adultery and I intend to stay in that adulterous relationship. I’m not going to leave the man. I’m not going to leave the woman I’ve found.” Now when they are talking like this, then there is very little hope for restoration at that point. So what are you going to do? Then you need to back off. You don’t need to plead. You don’t need to whimper. You need to say, “Look, what you are doing is an abomination to me. It’s an abomination to our children. And it’s an abomination to God. And I just want you to know that God will have to judge you. And God will judge you. I don’t want a divorce. When I married you, I made a commitment to you. I made a commitment to you and I intend to keep it. But if you’re not going to keep it, I cannot force you. But I’m just telling you that someday in the future, you’re going to regret this. And if you want to work it out, I want to work it out also.”

## **PART TWO**

If your mate has committed adultery and your mate says, “I don’t want to reconcile. I want to go and live with this person.” Then do not give him the store. Do not give her the store. Don’t make it easy for that person to divorce you. Don’t let them shirk their obligation to you, because it’s not good for

them. The Bible says, “If judgment is not executed speedily...,” It’s in Ecclesiastes, chapter 8. “If judgment against something is not executed speedily, it is fully set in the hearts of the sons of men to do what is wrong.” So if your mate is going to walk away, then what I would do is I don’t give them the store and the second thing is I wouldn’t give them a quickie divorce. I would give them time to come to their senses. And I think this is very important because always, always, the goal, even in adultery, and we’re going to talk about this later, but always the goal should be restoration of a marriage because marriage is a covenant. And because when there is this divorce, it pollutes the land. When you look at Jeremiah, he says this. “And you have polluted the land with your harlotry and with your wickedness.” And so you want to give this person time to come to their senses. You want to give this person time to understand the gravity of what they’ve done and the consequences that they are going to face. But if you know that your mate is sleeping with another person, then listen, the bedroom door is shut to that mate. He should not or she should not be sleeping with another person and sleeping with you. That is not pleasing to God. That’s why adultery breaks marriage. Now, why am I saying that you let the husband or the wife that’s committed adultery have time and you don’t give them a quickie divorce? Because, Precious One, I have seen so many people who have been caught up in the passion of the moment, who have been caught up in the guilt of the moment, the guilt of what they’re doing to the one that they committed adultery with if they go back to their mate. It’s insane and it’s crazy, but this is what happens. And they’re confused and they don’t know how to handle it. And in not knowing how to handle it, if you give them a quickie divorce, then they can get married to the one that they just had an affair with, just like that. And listen to me carefully. Once they marry another person, according to the Word of God, according to Deuteronomy, chapter 24, they cannot come back to you. Let me show this to you, because it’s important for you to understand it. And it’s important for them to understand it. And you need to

point it out to them. Now, as I share this with you, I want you to know that not every biblical scholar agrees with me. But there are a lot that do. And I'll show you why I think I'm right based on the Scripture. In Deuteronomy, chapter 24, "When a man takes a wife and marries her, and it happens that she finds no favor in his eyes because he has found some uncleanness in her, and he writes a certificate of divorce and puts it in her hand and sends her out from the house." So he writes this certificate of divorce. He puts it in her hand and he says, "Okay, there's the door. You're free. Go ahead." Now a certificate of divorce implied that that woman had a right to get married again, because she was legitimately divorced by her husband. Now all of this was not pleasing to God and in Matthew, chapter 19, Jesus says, "Moses permitted this because of the hardness of your heart." But it's not what's on God's heart. God hates divorce. And God doesn't really permit divorce except for adultery and except for desertion, adultery: Matthew 19, desertion: 1 Corinthians, chapter 7. And we'll deal with that when we deal with the issue of divorce and remarriage. But anyway, she has the bill of divorce in her hand and she leaves. And it says, "And she leaves...and she goes, and she becomes another man's wife, and if the latter husband..., husband number two, "...turns against her...and sends her out of his house, or if the latter husband..., husband number two, "...dies who took her to be his wife..., husband number one, "...who sent her away is not allowed to take her again to be his wife, since she has been defiled." Now does that tell you something about adultery? It says that when you have sex outside of marriage, you are defiling your body. And you are defiling the marriage. So now watch. She leaves husband number one. She marries husband number two. Husband number two sends her away or husband number two dies; she cannot come back to husband number one because she has been defiled. Now, in all this, there is a marriage contract. There is a marriage covenant that is being made.

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So it says, He cannot "...take her to be his wife again...and you shall not bring sin on the land which the Lord gives you as an inheritance." Why? It says, "For that is an abomination to the Lord." It is an abomination to the Lord when she, after having been married, goes back to the first husband. Listen; if it was an abomination then, it remains an abomination today. And so you need to understand that you don't give them a quickie divorce because if you give them a quickie divorce, you're putting them in a vulnerable position. Better that they should come to know the Lord, that they should repent, and that they should be brought back to the Lord and live the way they ought to live. Just remember, the ideal is restoration. All right now, what if your mate has said, "I am grieved over what I've done to you. I am so sorry. And I see that it is wrong." Then what do you do? Well, the first thing that you're going to have to do is you're going to have to forgive that person. You say, "I don't know if I can ever forgive what my husband or my wife has done to me. I don't know if I would be suspicious every time I saw my mate look at a person of the opposite sex. I don't know if I could trust them to go to work. And I don't know if I could trust them if they were saying to me, 'I've got to work overtime tonight.' I don't know how to handle it." Well, Precious One, listen to me. You can forgive and you can rebuild trust. There is a way to do it. And there's a way to do it because God does it with Israel. There are answers in the Word of God. And we're going to discover those answers. I want you to know that He is the God of all hope. He is the Redeemer. He is the Restorer and He can renew your marriage if you will just come to Him and just cast yourself on Him. Now get in the Scriptures and start reading and don't miss as we talk to you about how you can forgive.