

A MARRAGE WITHOUT REGRETS

PROGRAM 33 (#910163)

WEEK 7 (910335)

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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 33 – When You Commit Adultery

WEDNESDAY

OPEN

I want you to understand that when you commit adultery, you are defrauding another person. You're defrauding the person that you're sleeping with. And you are defrauding, if they are married, you are defrauding someone's husband or someone's wife. And you've got to know that the Lord is the avenger in all these things." In other words, you're going to have to deal with God.

PART ONE

There's certain things that you need to understand if you're going to deal with adultery properly, if you're going to recover from what you did. The first thing that you must know and you must understand, Beloved, is the grievousness of this sin. You have to understand number one that adultery is a sin. You have broken God's commandment. You say, "Kay, don't tell me that. Don't you know how hard it is for me to live with myself and now it's

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like you're rubbing salt into the wound?" Precious One, I'm rubbing salt into the wound for a purpose. I'm not being mean. But I'm telling you, in the long range, if you're going to handle that adultery in the proper way and if you're going to recover from adultery, you're not going to recover from adultery by covering it up, by just putting a little bandage on a dirty wound. You have to see the dirt in the wound and you have to get the dirt out of the wound because if you don't, it's just going to fester. And it's going to cause an infection that's going to spread all over your life. And so let's look at it. The first thing, as I said, you must see that it is grievous, that adultery is grievous because you have sinned against God. Exodus, chapter 20, verse 14. It's the seventh commandment and God says, "You shall not commit adultery." So what you have done is you have broken God's laws. Okay. The second thing that you need to realize is not only have you broken God's law, but you have broken a covenant. Now, I want to take you to Malachi, chapter 2 again. Because this is the one place where God shows us in the Word of God that marriage is a covenant. In Malachi, chapter 2 and throughout this book, God is talking to the priest. God is talking to the spiritual leaders of Israel. And He is saying, "I have these things against you." Now these are the men that really ought to know. These are the men that are there to defend the law. And these are the men that are there to take care of the sacrifices when the people break the law. They're the ones that carry out the sacrificial system when somebody does commit adultery or when somebody does sin against God and they bring a trespass offering or they bring a sin offering or they bring a guilt offering to the Lord. So he's talking to them and this is what he says in verse 10. "Do we not all have one father? Has not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously each against his own brother?" And I want you to remember that. Because we're going to see it in just a few minutes, that when you commit adultery you have defrauded your brother. So it's not just that you've hurt you, but if that person is married, you have defrauded your brother. And so he says, "Why do you deal treacherously each against his brother so as to profane the covenant of our fathers?" The Hebrew word for covenant is "beriyth", "b-e-

r-i-y-t-h”. And it means a compact or an agreement made by passing through pieces of flesh. Now what they did and you can see this in Genesis, chapter 15. You can see it in the book of Jeremiah where he talks about making a covenant and passing between the pieces. In Genesis, chapter 15, on the day that God makes a covenant with Abraham, He has Abraham get these animals, has him cut the animals down the middle, lays one half of the animal over here, half a head and two legs and the other half of the animal over here. And then God comes down in a smoking oven and a flaming torch and God passes between the pieces of the flesh of those two walls of blood. Now if you stop and think about that, that a covenant is a solemn binding agreement made by passing through pieces of flesh, it will help you understand this better. All right, so now he comes down and he talks about how Judah and Israel have committed this abomination and how they’ve broken the covenant. And then he says, in verse 13, “You cover the altar of the Lord with tears, with weeping and with groaning.” And that may be you right now, having committed adultery. You are weeping. You are groaning. You are wailing because of the foolish thing that you did. And it was foolish for you to commit adultery. It was a sin as we saw. He says, “Why are you doing this? Because he no longer regards the offering or accepts it with favor from your hand.” In other words, they were bringing offerings and God wasn’t listening to them. God wasn’t hearing their prayers. God wasn’t moving on their behalf. And it may be you’ve committed adultery, so you are weeping all over the place. You are groaning all over the place. You are grieved to the very, very core, but it doesn’t seem like God is moving. It doesn’t seem like anything is happening. And nothing may be happening at this point. And it may not be happening because you at this point aren’t dealing with adultery the way that you should deal with it. And there is a process. And we’re going to go through that process. So he comes back and he says, “Yet you say for what reason?” They were bringing these offerings and God wasn’t honoring them. And they say, “For what reason?” And he says, “Because the Lord has been a witness between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously, though she is your

companion and your wife by covenant.” Now I want to be as delicate as I can be, but I just want you to know that if you’ll stop and think about the definition that I gave you of covenant, a solemn binding agreement made by passing through pieces of flesh. It’s a solemn binding agreement that takes two and unites them into a oneness, the oneness of a covenant relationship. Well you know that when a man sleeps with his wife then what happens is they become one flesh. And if you just stop and think about the sign of a virgin in the Old Testament. It was that bridal cloth that had that blood on it from the first night when the husband joined the wife and the two became one flesh, when the husband entered the wife and the two became one flesh. Now he says that’s a covenant. And you’ve made that covenant. Now you’re dealing treacherously with the wife of that covenant. And it says, “But has not one done so who has a remnant of the Spirit?” I mean if you’re lead by the Spirit, you wouldn’t have been committing adultery. If you had obeyed the Holy Spirit, you wouldn’t have committed adultery. You say, “But I couldn’t help it. I just got carried away.” But the fruit of the Spirit, Galatians 5:22 is temperance. It is self-control. So if you were walking by the Spirit, you would not fulfill the desires of your flesh. He says, “And then what did you do while he was seeking a godly offspring? Take heed then to your spirit and let no one deal treacherously.” And I want you to see what he’s saying. “‘Let no one deal treacherously with the wife of your youth, for I hate divorce,’ says the Lord the God of Israel. ‘And him who covers his garment with wrong,’ says the Lord of hosts. ‘So take heed to your spirit that you do not deal treacherously.’” So what I want you to see is that when you break this covenant by having sexual relations with another person, you are dealing treacherously with your wife or with your husband, who is a husband or wife by covenant. You say, “I knew nothing about covenant.” No, but you got married and when you got married you were saying, “I’m taking this man, I’m taking this woman to be my wife, to be my husband for life. I’m uniting in an agreement with this person.” And therefore, whether you understood the ramifications of covenant or not, God sees marriage as a covenant and you have broken the covenant. You have dealt treacherously

with your mate. Now, if you're going to find forgiveness from your mate, if you're going to find forgiveness from the Lord, you cannot gloss over what you have done. You have to see it and understand it in all of its stark naked reality. You need to see it for what it is. Don't gloss over it, because you'll never, really find true healing unless you cleanse that wound and give it a chance to heal. All right, so the next thing that I want you to see is this: that it is grievous because when you committed adultery, you opened your mate to the probability of having a sexually transmitted disease. Or you made your mate vulnerable to AIDS. You say, "But I don't think the person that I had adultery with had AIDS. I don't think that the person I committed adultery with had a sexually transmitted disease." Did you stop and ask them when the last time was that they had a blood test? Did you ask them if they had ever had a history of that? No, in all probability you didn't. You say, "But, but I took precautions." Listen, those precautions do help to a certain degree, but not to a total degree. So just know this, when you sleep with a person, with an individual, you are also sleeping with every other individual that they slept with, because it all comes together. That's what the statisticians are saying. So you've got to realize what you just did. This is grievous to God. This is grievous to your mate. When you commit adultery, what you're doing is you're causing this to have an effect on your children. Your children have just stood and they have watched you walk out on their mother or walk out on their father and choose to have sexual relationships with another person.

PART TWO

You know, an interesting article came out of Time Magazine, "What Does Divorce Do To Kids?" and it says a new research says that the long-term damage is worse than you thought. Granted, there may be no divorce as a result of this adultery, but it has put the word divorce into your children's minds, into their thoughts. So let me just tell you some of the things that Judith Wallinstein discovered. She began a study back in the 1970s of 131

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kids that were the product of divorce, to see what would happen. And it says, “The children that she studied were more likely to struggle with drugs, alcohol and sex. Fully half the children she studied were involved in serious abuse of alcohol and drugs, some as early as the age of 14 and they tended to become sexually active early, particularly the girls.” Why? Because those girls are looking for security. They’re looking for someone that’s going to love them. Well what example do they have from you? The other thing, Wallinstein’s most significant finding was this, that the effects of divorce on children are not short-term and they are not transient. They’re not going to go away. They’re not going to pass away. They are long lasting, profound, accumulative. They build up. The children in Wallinstein’s study view their parents differently and they have lingering fears about their ability to commit to relationships that affect their own marriages. Why? Because they saw your marriage damaged. They saw your marriage fall apart. So we need to understand that. Now God brings that out in Malachi, chapter 2. And He talks about, listen, you need to stay together, because if you don’t stay together then you’re making your children unclean. In other words, people became unclean in the Old Testament and a Jew would understand that. If they touched something that was unclean, that made them unclean. If they associated with a dead body, if they associated with somebody with leprosy, because of the contact, it made them unclean. And what God is saying is this: that when there is divorce or when there is immorality and the parents split consequently as a result of that, it makes your children unclean. They have just been exposed to something in a deep and intimate way, in a very personal way that they shouldn’t have to deal with. God never meant for them to deal with something like that. All right, the next thing I want you to see is that when you commit adultery, it is grievous, not only to God, not only to your mate, not only to your children, but it is grievous to you. Because 1 Corinthians, chapter 6 and I told you I’m going to wear out that passage. But it says, “Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside the body.” But he that commits immorality, adultery, fornication, any kind of sexual activity, sins against his own body. And you sin against

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your own body especially if your body belongs to the Lord. Because you have just taken the hands of Jesus Christ, you have just taken the body of Jesus Christ and you have used it in a way that is totally against His law. You need to see how awful that is. You also need to see this: that when you commit adultery, if you do it once, it's easier to do it a second time. When you get involved in some sort of kinky or quirky sex that is a perversion to God, you do it once, then you do it a second time and eventually it becomes a habit. It becomes a compulsion or that's the only way that you can get your kicks, so to speak. So you have to realize that when you commit sin, you have sinned against your own body. Now the last thing that I want you to see is, that when you commit adultery, you defraud your brother. You defraud the person that you have committed adultery with. You also defraud the person that they are married to. And I want to take you to 1 Thessalonians, chapter 4. And this is a very, very important passage. In 1 Thessalonians, chapter 4, he is telling them, "Now look, I want you to walk in a way that excels. I want you to live a life that is on its highest plain. I don't want you just groping around here and living like the world lives. I want you to excel still more." And then he says in verse 3, "For this is the will of God, your sanctification." Now sanctification means to be set apart. It means to be consecrated. It means to be put aside for God's use. Okay. Now if you're set aside for God's use, then you're going to live the way God says live. So he says, "This is the will of God, your sanctification." But then, he clarifies what he means by sanctification in this passage. He says, "That is, that you abstain from sexual immorality." All right, now you've committed adultery. You have not abstained from sexual immorality. You have broken God's commandment. You have gone against God's law. You say, "But I didn't know that it was a law." Listen, deep inside, any time you have sex outside of marriage, deep inside, in all probability, deep, deep, deep, you know that what you're doing is, if you're not willing to marry that person, that you're using that person. You know that you're just reacting in that in that lust of your own flesh. You know that you're not really honoring that person or caring for their highest good. And I believe even deep, deep down that you

know if you were to stand before God, that He would be displeased with that. So he says, “This is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel...,” your own body, “...in sanctification and honor, not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God.” I mean, you see people that don’t know God. And you see them just in this lustful passion. They’re with this person. They’re with that person. They’re sleeping around the campus. They’re sleeping around the community. They have no qualms. They have no quarrels. They take another person’s wife or a daughter and they think nothing about it. We need to see that we’re walking in lustful passion, just like the Gentiles and the Lord is displeased with that. He says, “That no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter, because the Lord is the avenger in all these things, just as we also told you and solemnly warned you.” Now he says, “I want you to understand something. I want you to understand that when you commit adultery, you are defrauding another person. You’re defrauding the person that you’re sleeping with. And you are defrauding, if they are married, you are defrauding someone’s husband or someone’s wife. And you’ve got to know that the Lord is the avenger in all these things.” In other words, you’re going to have to deal with God. What do you do after adultery? Well it begins with dealing with God in a proper way. But God just goes on to say this; that God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but He’s called us in sanctification. Consequently if you reject what I’m saying, know this, you’re not rejecting me, it says in the next verse, you’re rejecting God. These are God’s words. And you need to see that when you commit adultery, you have offended God. You’ve offended your mate. And you need to know how to handle it.