

Affair-Proofing Your Marriage

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Exodus 20:14.
- B. God's command against adultery is for the protection of His people.
- C. God judges the immoral who commit adultery. (Hebrews 13:5)

II. Make a commitment to uphold God's standard.

- A. There is no excuse.
- B. One needs to affirm his commitment.

III. Magnify the consequences. (Proverbs 6:32)

- A. Nothing damages emotions like sexual sin. (Proverbs 6:26)
- B. The cost of adultery is always higher than the pain we have to go through.
- C. We are faithful because we love Christ, we love our children and we fear the judgment of God.

IV. Maintain the marriage. (I Corinthians 7:3)

- A. The challenge is that men and women have different needs.
- B. A sexual drive is not to be repressed or expressed illegitimately.
- C. Affairs are rationalized. (Jeremiah 17:29)

V. Maintain proper relationships with others.

- A. Do not listen to a member of the opposite sex tell you about his or her marriage problems.
- B. Do not go fishing for compliments, women. Men, watch what you say to women.
- C. Be aware of a sense of electricity between yourself and the opposite sex.
- D. Avoid a prolonged stare.
- E. Avoid a prolonged touch. (Ephesians 5:3)

VI. Minimize the opportunity.

- A. Recognize the things that cause you to be stimulated. (I Corinthians 10)

B. No one is immune to this sin.

VII. Make sure that your best friends are those who are committed to their marriages also.

VIII. The pathway back to purity.

A. Acknowledge the sin. (Psalm 51)

B. End the relationship immediately.

C. Avoid all contact with the person you committed adultery with from now on.

D. Make a commitment to be morally pure for the rest of your life.

Application questions:

1. How would you respond to someone who says that an occasional touch between those of the opposite sex who are married is not out of line?

2. How would you counsel someone seeking restoration from an adulterous affair?

3. Which point of advice for “affair-proofing” your marriage stands out to you? What strikes you about it?
