



6th Commandment

19 Minutes in Luther's Catechism

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Introduction to the Lord's Prayer
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The Doxology

"You shall not commit adultery."

Exodus 20:13

1. Often portrayed as a commandment about sexual relations, what is this commandment really about?

2. See if you can complete this: God's definition of marriage is a _____ - _____ union between _____ and _____.

On what do we base this definition?

3. The Bible explains more about God's intentions for marriage:

Hebrews 13:4 **Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.**

Matthew 5:27 **You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.'**
²⁸**But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.**

4. What are the only scriptural grounds for divorce?

Matthe 19:9 **I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery.**

1Co 7:15 **If the unbeliever leaves, let him do so. A believing man or woman is not bound in such circumstances.**

5. From Ephesians 5:21-25, complete the secret to a perfect marriage:

Wives, _____ to your husbands as to the Lord.

Husbands, _____ your wives, just as Christ loved the church.

5. Singleness – From a religious perspective, what does singleness have to commend itself?

1 Corinthians 7:32 **An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord's affairs—how he can please the Lord.** ³³*But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world—how he can please his wife...* ³⁴*An unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the Lord's affairs: Her aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the affairs of this world—how she can please her husband.* ³⁵*I am saying this, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.*

What other reasons for singleness might there be?

6. *Hebrews 7:26* **"Such a high priest meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners."**

According to this verse, how did Jesus save us from our sins against the Sixth Commandment?

7. Comment:

People are born homosexuals. How can you condemn them? They're born that way!

So many marriages end in divorce. It is better to live together for a while, and then when you are really sure, get married.

Sins against the Sixth Commandment are worse than other sins. (1 Corinthians 6:18)

8. Luther's brief explanation of the Sixth Commandment in the Small Catechism:

THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT

You shall not commit adultery.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God that we lead a pure and decent life in words and actions, and that husband and wife love and honor each other.

Closing Prayer:

Heavenly Father, be patient with us. Forgive our sins of omission and commission: the times we've neglected others and the times when our thoughts, words, or actions have been hurtful or hate-filled. Lead us always to see life as a gracious gift from you, and move us to share your love with others. In the name of Jesus, our Savior, we pray. Amen.