



Dealing With Sin  
Series: *The Sermon On The Mount*, #7  
Matthew 5:27-32  
Pastor Lyle L. Wahl  
July 4, 2021

Theme: **Radical righteousness defeats sin.**

**Wrong desires are sin, not just wrong acts.**

1. The contrast with the view of the Scribes and Pharisees.  
(5:17-20, 21-26; see also 15:1-20; 19:16-22)
2. A specific example—faithfulness in marriage. (27-28; see also Exodus 20:14, 17)

**Sin brings destructive results.**

1. The specific of marriage and divorce. (31-32; see also 19:3-12)
2. The far reaching implications. (31-32; see also Malachi 2:16)

**The preventative and cure of radical righteousness.**

1. The difficulty in understanding Jesus' words. (29-30)
2. The spiritual discipline to follow Jesus' words.  
(29-30; see also Romans 6:1-23; 13:14; Ephesians 4:22-24; 6:11-18; Philippians 4:8-9; Colossians 3:5)

## In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

**Monday.** The Scribes and Pharisees lacked an accurate understanding of both sin and righteousness. They focused on the external — what they said and did, not their desires and motives, not their hearts. Review the contrasts in 5:17-26 with 15:1-20. Jesus deals with lust and adultery in this section. There are, of course, many other wrong desires. Spend some time with God examining your desires. List those that are not right and confess them to God.

**Tuesday.** Sin is serious. Verses 31-32 show that sin brings destructive results. In the marriage relationship the God-created bond for life can be dismissed. Is there any sin in your life that you recognize but are still allowing or tolerating? You don't have to learn this lesson *the hard way*.

**Wednesday.** Jesus gave sharp, graphic instructions for dealing with sinful desires in verses 29-30. How do you understand these words? What do they mean, and not mean?

**Thursday.** We looked at some positive principles for defeating sin and living in radical righteousness on Sunday. Review those, beginning with Philippians 4:8-9, and then going on through the rest of the verses listed in the outline.

**Friday – Saturday.** Sunday will look at more of the fruit that radical righteousness produces from 5:33-48. Read and think through these verses as you prepare for our time of worship.