



HOW TO GIVE LOVE A GREAT NAME AGAIN

Giving Love A Bad Name- Matthew 5:27-30

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell." **Matthew 5:27-30 (NIV)**

Adultery - *adulterate* = To render something poorer in quality by adding another substance

The Formula for Great Love - Genesis 2:24

"At last!" the man (Adam) exclaimed. "This one is bone from my bone, and flesh from my flesh! She will be called 'woman,' because she was taken from 'man.'" This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one. **Genesis 2:23-24 (NLT)**

Love that works leaves, cleaves, and gets sticky.

Yet, although good, not good enough. Jesus ups the game:

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

Lust - to have a very strong sexual desire, to fantasize about, to dream about to the point of arousal

Love only works if it's body, mind, and spirit.

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1. Refocus on the first true love. (Jesus)

"For the Son of Man (Jesus) came to seek and to save the lost."

Luke 19:10 (NIV)

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9 (NIV)

2. Run from anyone or anything, that's already giving love a bad name.

Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body. 1 Cor. 6:18 (NLT)

3. With God's help, seek out the one true partner God has for me.

"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and He will give you everything you need." Matthew 6:33 (NLT)

4. Pour all my energy into the one God has given me.

Let your wife be a fountain of blessing for you. Rejoice (re-joy) in the wife of your youth. Proverbs 5:18 (NLT)

Going deeper on your own: For a more in-depth understanding regarding sex, its roles in marriage, and God's view regarding sex outside of marriage, look up the following two articles from Focus on the Family and Core Christianity: <https://www.focusonthefamily.com/marriage/sex-is-not-about-waiting/> and <https://corechristianity.com/resource-library/articles/9-bible-verses-that-teach-that-sex-before-marriage-is-a-sin/>.