

Jesus and the office affair

Dear Rebecca, I had an affair with a colleague that lasted four months. Part of the attraction was that no one else knew about it. It ended badly (as, I'm assuming, most office affairs do). The sight of him makes me anxious, and I want to forget the whole thing happened, as does he. I do have to converse with him, almost daily. If I could quit, I would. But I can't. How do I get over this? – Regretful

Jesus says in the Sermon on the Mount Matthew 5:27-30

²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘Do not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, 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. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, 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.

I Corinthians 6:9-11

⁹Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders ¹⁰nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Proverbs 5:15-19

¹⁵ Drink water from your own cistern,
running water from your own well.

¹⁶ Should your springs overflow in the streets,
your streams of water in the public squares?

¹⁷ Let them be yours alone,
never to be shared with strangers.

¹⁸ May your fountain be blessed,
and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth.

¹⁹ A loving doe, a graceful deer—
may her breasts satisfy you always,
may you ever be captivated by her love.

1 A clear word from Jesus

2 The Sermon on the Mount

3 The office affair

- a You have heard ... 5:27
- b But I say to you ... 5:28
- c It is better for you ... 5:29-30
- d Than ... 5:29-30

4 Well?

- a The beautiful ‘but’ I Corinthians 6:9-11
- b Don’t look, gouge, cut, throw 5:29-30
- c Be faithful with our hearts, eyes, hands, fingers and feet
- d Drink water from your own cistern Proverbs 5:15-19

