



# Walk <sup>the</sup> Talk

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**Love Your Neighbor,  
but Not Like That**

**Asbury**  
United Methodist Church

6767 South Mingo Road, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133

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# Opposite-Sex Relationships

Is there anything wrong with having a close friend of the opposite sex after you're married? While there may be no clear answer, there are compelling reasons to be cautious about opposite-sex friendships outside of your spouse's company. No matter how happy and secure your marriage, you should always protect your relationship against temptation, deception and potential affairs.

Most affairs begin as an innocent connection between two people. You may be brought together through work, church or school. But if your guard isn't up and your boundaries aren't well-established, a newly developing connection can quickly become entangled. As you spend time together, either face-to-face, through the computer or by phone, you may find yourself gradually sucked into an emotional affair that can rip a marriage to shreds even though the relationship never becomes physical.

The damage begins when you find yourself sharing information, thoughts or feelings that should have been kept between you and your spouse. This is an emotional betrayal that cuts into the heart of a marriage. The damage worsens as you begin to distance yourself emotionally and physically from your spouse in lieu of time with your friend.

Eventually, the friendship crosses the line when it introduces elements that should never be part of a marriage — secrets and lies. This deception destroys the foundation of marital security, and once it begins, it's difficult to stop.

Because an emotional affair remains nonsexual, it is easy to rationalize:

"We're just friends."

"He's never touched me."

"We aren't doing anything wrong."

The relationship continues because the unfaithful spouse reasons away the guilt.

## Protect Your Marriage

No marriage is affair proof. We are all at risk of losing our focus and being swept into an emotional affair. But you can do several things to safeguard your marriage:

1. Stay honest with yourself and with your spouse. If you find yourself attracted to someone, admit it quickly to yourself and to your spouse. Honesty is the key to preventing a relationship from escalating into an affair.
2. Avoid magazines, movies and other forms of entertainment that can increase your tolerance of affairs.

3. Try to see your relationships from your spouse's perspective. What would your spouse be comfortable with? How would he or she feel about what you are doing?
4. Do not flirt. Most affairs begin with what's considered "innocent flirting," but there's no such thing! Flirting is not a part of friendship.
5. Keep your marriage as your No. 1 priority. Make sure you are working to meet your spouse's most important needs. If you're not sure what those are, ask.
6. Grow together spiritually. Pray with each other and for each other.
7. Set boundaries about how you will interact with the opposite sex. For instance, you and your spouse may decide that neither of you will be alone with someone of the opposite sex, even for business lunches or late nights at work.
8. Surround yourselves with happily married couples who don't believe in fooling around.

You can keep your marriage safe from emotional affairs. But it requires open, honest communication and a commitment to do whatever it takes to keep your marriage your No. 1 relationship.

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Cherry, Dr. Debbie L. "Emotional Affairs." Focus on the Family. N.p., 01 May 2008. Web. 21 Apr. 2015.

## Announcements

A full list of announcements is available at [www.asburytulsa.org/announcements](http://www.asburytulsa.org/announcements).



## Dedication Ceremony for the Wesley Statue

Today at 10:40 am under the south portico, there will be a Dedication Ceremony for the Wesley Statue. If you have not seen the statue, please take a moment to stop by.

## Joining Asbury, May 17

If you are interested in joining Asbury or finding out more about us, please plan to attend the Joining Asbury luncheon May 17, from 12:15–2:15 in the Family Room. Child care is available for 6 weeks to sixth grade. Register at [www.myasburytulsa.org](http://www.myasburytulsa.org). For more information, call 918.392.1191.



# 7th Grade Confirmation Service

Tonight is Asbury's Confirmation service; a total of 103 seventh graders will affirm their faith in Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord and will confirm their membership vows. We commend the 7th graders, families, small group leaders, student ministry leaders and friends.



## Piper Stokes – Union

"To me, confirmation is like baptism confirming my faith. It has been great and amazing this past year! You don't have to worry or have doubts about God. Just live life like you are one of God's little disciples."



## Leslie Runyan – Small Group Leader

"Leading a Confirmation group was supposed to be about teaching students about their responsibilities as a follower of Jesus. It has been is a renewal of my faith and has generated an excitement about what the world has in store for it with these students at the helm of our church!"



## Damien Johnston – Union

"Confirmation is letting Christ into your life and letting people know you are a Christian. It is about telling your story so others will follow Christ. The most important memorable lesson to me was the Spring Break Mission trip. Even though these homeless people had a coat of dirt on them, you could see in their eyes that they were Christian. They were telling me how Christ came into their life and how they loved the Lord. It doesn't matter what is on the outside of a person. It matters what's on the inside."



## Hailey McPherson – Union

"Confirmation taught me how to serve others and to let Christ into my life. I loved Spring Break Missions. Spring Break Missions taught me to put others first instead of me. We got to experience how the homeless people feel and get them more involved with Christ. I also learned to be more caring and not judgmental and accepted them the way they were."



## Welcome To Asbury.

We're so glad you joined us today. At Asbury, our mission is to develop all generations for significant lives in Christ. Here, you'll find opportunities to worship God, biblical teaching to increase your understanding and strengthen your faith, and a variety of opportunities to get involved in serving and connecting with others. Let God work in your life today! You can learn more at [www.asburytulsa.org](http://www.asburytulsa.org).

**Worship** *with us*  
on **Sunday**

**8:00 am**—Traditional Service In Mason Chapel

**9:15 am**—Traditional Service in Sanctuary

**11:00 am**—Modern Service in Sanctuary

# Order of Worship | April 26, 2015

**8:00 AM**

<b>WELCOME</b>		Dr. Jeanne Pearson
<b>MILESTONE ANNIVERSARY</b>		
<b>PRELUDE</b>		Rosanna Corrales
<b>CONGREGATIONAL HYMN</b>	<i>Come Christians Join To Sing</i> Hymn #158	
<b>CREED / GREETING / NEW MEMBERS</b>		
<b>SPECIAL MUSIC</b>	<i>Wonderful, Wonderful Jesus</i> Asbury's Singing Ambassadors	
<b>CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS</b>	<i>Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling</i> Hymn #348	
	<i>I Surrender All</i> Hymn #354	Dr. Pat Calhoun
<b>PASTORAL PRAYER</b>		Dr. Tom Harrison
<b>DOXOLOGY</b>		
<b>OFFERTORY</b>		
<b>SCRIPTURE</b>		<b>Matthew 5:27–32</b>
<b>MESSAGE</b>	<b>Love Your Neighbor, but Not Like That</b>	Dr. Tom Harrison
<b>SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE</b>		Dr. Jeanne Pearson
<b>POSTLUDE</b>		

## Daily scripture readings for the upcoming week:

**April 27:** Romans 13:8–14

**April 28:** 1 Corinthians 10:23–33

**April 29:** Matthew 5:33–37

**April 30:** Exodus 23:1–9

**May 1:** James 3:1–12

**May 2:** James 4

Next Week: ***Walk the Talk: Mean What You Say***

# Order of Worship | April 26, 2015

**9:15 AM**

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Sean Groombridge

**WELCOME**

Rev. Gloria McGee-Denton

**BAPTISMS**

**CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*  
Hymn #384

*There Is A Hope So Sure*

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG**

*Make Us One, Lord*

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Dr. Tom Harrison

**DOXOLOGY**

**OFFERTORY**

*Great Is The Lord*

**SCRIPTURE**

**Matthew 5:27–32**

**MESSAGE**

**Love Your Neighbor, but Not Like That**

Dr. Tom Harrison

**CHORAL BENEDICTION**

*Direct Us, O Lord*

**BENEDICTION**

Dr. Tom Harrison

**POSTLUDE**

Rosanna Corrales

**Connect with our pastor:**

Rev. Gloria McGee-Denton | [gmcgee-denton@asburytulsa.org](mailto:gmcgee-denton@asburytulsa.org)

[twitter.com/runthehumanrace](https://twitter.com/runthehumanrace)

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# Order of Worship | April 26, 2015

**11:00 AM**

**SCRIPTURE**

**Matthew 5:27–32**

**MESSAGE**

**Love Your Neighbor, but Not Like That**

Dr. Tom Harrison

**SONGS HEARD TODAY**

*Our God Is Love*  
*Hands To The Heavens*  
*There's Something About That Name*  
*Revelation Song*  
*How Can It Be*

**Worship Pastor:** Jon Odom

**Worship Leader:** Chris Cleveland

**Connect with our pastors:**

Todd Craig | [tcraig@asburytulsa.org](mailto:tcraig@asburytulsa.org) | [twitter.com/tcraig135](https://twitter.com/tcraig135)

Jon Odom | [jodom@asburytulsa.org](mailto:jodom@asburytulsa.org) | [twitter.com/jonodom](https://twitter.com/jonodom)

Dick Read | [rdread@asburytulsa.org](mailto:rdread@asburytulsa.org)

**Notes:**

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