

Dear Icymay,

Thank you for writing us at Christian Questions Radio. You were wondering what the difference was between immorality and adultery.

Webster's Dictionary defines the word "immoral" as not being concerned with right conduct or rules. One who is immoral makes no attempt to curb self-indulgence and is usually sunk in unrestrained appetites. Two synonyms for immoral are "abandoned" and "depraved." The word "immorality" refers to immoral character or conduct and is usually associated with sexual acts of an impure nature. Adultery is one aspect of immorality. It is voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and another who is not the lawful spouse.

Although "immorality" and "adultery" are closely related by definition, immorality is a broader term and can be applied to a number of impure acts of a sexual nature not necessarily relating to marriage, while adultery is specific to intercourse outside the bonds of marriage.

We hope we have answered your question. Please write us again.

Sincerely,  
Christian Questions Radio