

YOU ASKED FOR IT!

Let's Talk About Sex

#npyouasked

Week 3 3 of 4

July 16, 2017

Bottom Line: The Bible describes sex as a beautiful and powerful thing. But just like a prescription drug, there are many dangerous side effects when we don't use it the way in which it was prescribed.

Icebreaker: Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus. That famous statement tells how different we are. What is a HUGE difference between men and women that you find humorous?

Key Verse: O God, you are my God; I earnestly search for you. My soul thirsts for you; my whole body longs for you in this parched and weary land where there is no water. Your unfailing love is better than life itself. You satisfy me more than the richest feast. Psalm 63:1-5

At the first reading, no one would suspect that verse to apply in a message about sex. But nothing is more direct and to the point than these words from David, a man who had his own famous struggles with sexual desire, temptation, and failure. David found through the successes and failures of life that nothing and no one but God could truly satisfy his deepest needs, that everything and everyone else left him still longing for more. He discovered that looking for gratification in any way except what God had designed and could bless wreaked havoc on his life.

God's desire for us is to stay far away from sexual immorality, not to keep us from enjoyment, but to give us the best in life. All of us crave true intimacy, and God knows that purity paves the way to intimacy. It is impossible otherwise. Sex outside of marriage, God's design, reeks havoc on your ability to enjoy true intimacy. Sex has the ability to affect not only your body but also your heart, mind, and soul.

Therefore, the Bible has some very serious warnings about this area, not because God devalues sex, but because he values it so highly. Sex was not created by God to relieve loneliness for a night or to gratify momentary cravings. It is a reflection of your existence as an unending spiritual being. That is why wrongfully expressed sex does such damage. It is a soul connection.

THINK IT OVER >>>

What impacted you most specifically from the weekend message?

"Our culture has abused sex by removing the boundaries that God has put around it." Agree/disagree. Why?

"According to Jesus, sex is reserved for the context of a relationship where there is ultimate, public, permanent commitment." Agree/disagree. Why?

"Pornography. College students hooking up. High school students texting naked pictures. Consenting adults who have once been married. All of it is sinful." A majority of Christians believe gay sex is wrong, yet many, if not most, make exceptions in all of these areas, and consider it no big deal to live together without marriage. In the light of what God actually says, how are we able to rationalize that?

LOOK IT OVER 📎

"Your sexuality is essential to your identity, but sexual activity is not. In fact, the Bible says that Jesus lived the greatest and most meaningful life in history, but he was never married." Discuss.

How can a husband and wife practically make certain they are serving each other in the spirit of Christ sexually?

What are the things you believe a parent should teach children about sex, and when?

How does teaching children about "bad touches" and to avoid strangers, but never teaching them as they grow about the joys of sex within the right boundaries work against their healthy development?

How do you work to avoid temptation?

NEXT STEPS

This week consider taking some next steps together as a group:

- 1) Share any books or resources that have been helpful to you in these areas.
- 2) Pray for each other to remain sexually pure, starting today.

EVALUATION/ACTION Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

Bottom Line: The Bible describes sex as a beautiful and powerful thing when used in the way in which it was prescribed.

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4	6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?									
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?									
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?									
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?									
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?									

PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at newpointe.org/daily:

Day 1: 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5

Day 2: 1 Thessalonians 4:6-8

Day 3: 1 Corinthians 10:13

Day 4: Ephesians 5:3

Day 5: 1 Corinthains 13:4-8