

## Theology of Sex

Relationship Series Part 6

1 Corinthians 6:9-20

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Hilltoppers for Christ | Worship Wednesday | 4.25.18

### Prayer Needs

- Dennis and Angela Vaughn - Dennis fell off of a roof yesterday and had surgery this morning.

### Sex

- Usually at the beginning of the sermons I preach, I start with a story, anecdote, or joke. I do this with the hopes of getting everyone's attention so everyone will stay engaged throughout the message. Tonight, however, I don't think I'll have to tell a clever story or tell a funny joke to get your attention. I think that most, if not all of you will become engaged as soon as I tell you the topic of tonight's lesson. Tonight we're going to talk about sex.
- Many of you experience strong feelings as soon as someone brings up sex. Sex provokes strong feelings.
  - Some of you may be feeling shame.
  - Some of you may be feeling excitement and anticipation. You can't wait for marriage.
  - Some of you may be feeling confused. Why does acid even care about our sex lives.
  - Some of you are simply uncomfortable because I am talking about sex in a church environment.

### Why talk about sex?

- Sex is everywhere. Listen to music. Watch TV. Watch a movie.
- Pornography
  - "A new study by the Barna Group shows that 64 percent of Christian men and 15 percent of Christian women admitted to viewing pornography at least once a month, compared to 65 percent of men and 30 percent of women who identified as non-Christian and said they watched porn at the same rate."<sup>1</sup>
- Sexual assault
  - One in five women claim to have been sexually assaulted.<sup>2</sup>
- Most college students are sexually active.
  - 59 percent of college-aged women and 51 percent of college-aged men report that they are sexually active.<sup>3</sup>
- Sex is on the mind of many college-aged people. They're thinking about it, seeing it, doing it, and wondering what God has to say about it.
- Tonight we will discuss God's gift of sex, God's design for sex, and answer some of your questions (we will spend a little more time than usual on the questions this week).

<sup>1</sup> Meredith Somers, "More than Half of Christians Men Admit to Watching Pornography," *The Washington Times*, August, 24, 2017, Accessed on October 11, 2017,

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/aug/24/more-than-half-of-christian-men-admit-to-watching/>.

<sup>2</sup> Roni Caryn Rabin, "Nearly 1 in 5 Women in U.S. Survey Say They Have Been Sexually Assaulted," *The New York Times*, December 14, 2011, Accessed on October 11, 2017,

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/15/health/nearly-1-in-5-women-in-us-survey-report-sexual-assault.html>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.cosmopolitan.com/politics/news/a47924/college-virgin-poll/>

### God's gift of sex

- Sex was God's idea. God made sex good, as a gift for humanity.
- Sex was not just created for procreation. That's an element of it, but God created sex for pleasure, too, as a gift.
  - There are parts of both men and women's bodies that are simply there for pleasure (has nothing to do with procreation).
- This means an attitude change for some people.
  - Some have it in their minds that sex is bad. They're scared into not having sex. What needs to be communicated, which I think is more biblical, is sex is very good within the framework God designed it to be in.

### God's design for sex

- God gave us sex as a good gift, but he created it for specific purposes.
- Song of Solomon is a book in the Bible dedicated to romantic love. It is mostly a dialogue between a man and a woman who are pursuing one another.
- There is a lot of erotic language in the Song of Solomon.
- *Song of Solomon 2:7, 3:5, 8:4* - Do not stir up or awaken love until it pleases.
- **Sex was intended to be between a wife and her husband.**
  - It is good for a husband and wife to have sexual relations.
    - *1 Corinthians 7:1-5*
- Biologically, when we have sex with someone, physically, our bodies release endorphins and other pleasure sensors.<sup>4</sup>
- You must fight for purity.
  - Accountability, guard rails

### Questions you asked:

- Will you go to hell if you have sex before marriage?
  - *1 Corinthians 6:9-11*
  - Even some in the church at Corinth committed sexual sins
- Why does the church care of [if] you have sex before marriage?
  - Sexual immorality - *porneia* - means "generally, of every kind of extramarital, unlawful, or unnatural sexual intercourse" *fornication, sexual immorality*<sup>5</sup>
  - Sexual immorality is mentioned literally hundreds of times in the Bible
  - *1 Corinthians 6:13-20, Leviticus 18*

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<sup>4</sup> See Hannah Parmalee's presentation on "Sex and the Brain." <https://campusforchrist.net/audio-video/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.tvresources.net/resource-library/articles/sexual-immorality-in-the-scriptures>