

## Lesson Five

# The Image of Sex

**Bottom Line:** God created sex as a way of knowing in the context of marriage.

**Key Scripture:** Genesis 2: 20-25

### ***A Note To Group Leaders:***

***Keep in mind the goal of every meeting is to create meaningful conversation and connection. Feel free to choose a few questions for discussion and adjust questions as needed.***

## Thought Starters

Think back over the past week and name as many products or services you can remember where sexiness and sexual imagery was used to draw your attention? How is this effective? How is this not effective?

Did you ever have the “sex talk” with your parents? If you did, how did it first come up and what do you remember most? If not, why do you think it never came up?

If you’re a parent, are you dreading the sex talk with your son or daughter? Why or why not?

## Questions For Reflection

### ***Read Genesis 2:20-25***

In these passages, how is the human body united with each other and with God?

What does it mean to “know” your spouse as ‘bone of your bones, and flesh of your flesh?’

What emotional and physical needs do people try to fulfill with sex? Does sex fulfill these needs? Why or why not?

### ***Read 1 Corinthians 6:15-16***

What from these passages helps you understand why God created sex in the first place and the guidelines He sets around sexual intimacy?

Is God just trying to kill our fun? Why or why not?

image of a relationship

Why is sexual purity a good idea physically? emotionally? spiritually?

### **Read Genesis 2:25 and 3:7**

What does it mean to you that Adam and Eve felt no shame in their nakedness in 2:25?

What does it mean to you to see in 3:7 they felt shame and made themselves loin coverings (NASB)?

## **Application In Your Life**

### **Read 1 Corinthians 7:1-5 and 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8**

How would you define sexual immorality in the context of marriage? Outside of marriage?

How can you "sanctify" your life so you honor God with your sexuality? What do you need to change to protect yourself from sexual temptation and from engaging in sexual immorality?

Look at 1 Corinthians 7:5 again. Why does Paul combine the thought of depriving one another with allowing Satan to tempt you in your lack of self-control?

If you are not married, what kinds of things can you do that will help you remain sexually pure? How can you incorporate those methods into your life now? What other benefits will come from remaining sexually pure?

If you are married, what kinds of things can you do that will keep you sexually pure in your marriage and help you grow in your knowledge of your spouse? How can you incorporate those methods into your life now? What benefits will come from remaining sexually intimate within your marriage?

## **Something To Do Before The Next Group Meeting**

The following are a few ideas to help you learn more about your collection of values and to help you engage in discussion with your partner and others around what you've learned in this lesson.




**TAKE NOTE of all of the ads, commercials and programs you see with overly suggestive sexual content.**

- What did you learn about the world's perspective on sexuality and sexual intimacy between a man and a woman? Between a husband and a wife?
- Read 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 again. How easy is it to live out God's idea for sex in today's world?

silhouette


image of a relationship

 **READ Mark 4: 18-19.** After you read, take 10 to 15 minutes to think about and write down your thoughts on the following:

- Do you know your spouse as best as possible? What in your life right now is in that way of you fully knowing your spouse and having the marriage God intended for the two of you? List everything that comes to mind. If possible, begin to list changes you can make to free yourself and your marriage in order to be fruitful.
- If you are single or dating, what can you do to get to know the other person without engaging in sexual intimacy?

 **WATCH 'It's Business Time', by Flight of the Conchords on YouTube.**

While there's really no real learning or deep spiritual meaning to this video, it's funny. We all need to laugh at the way we approach sex and our knowledge of our partner's needs.

 **PLAN a date night.**

When couples are dating or are newly married, they spend a lot of time together doing things they both enjoy. Over time financial pressure, the demands of children, and the busyness of life crowd out the fun times. If a couple stops spending time together, they start to lose some of the joy of their friendship. So, take turns and plan a date one night this week. If you're single, plan something for yourself that you haven't had a chance to do for a while (spa treatment, guys night, etc.) The key is to get out and have fun! For some ideas, try these sites:

- [atlantacenterformarriages.com/dateideas.htm](http://atlantacenterformarriages.com/dateideas.htm)
- [atlanta.net/visitors/calendarevents.html](http://atlanta.net/visitors/calendarevents.html)

 **READ '*Intended for Pleasure: Sex Technique and Sexual Fulfilment in Christian Marriage*' by Ed and Gaye Wheat.**

Intended For Pleasure is an easy-to-read reference book that has been revised and expanded in its third edition. Ed and Gaye Wheat, along with their medical associate Dow Pursley, combine biblical teaching on love and marriage with the latest medical information on sex and sexuality. Intended For Pleasure gently encourages the married couple to make their sexual relationship the fulfilling experience it was meant to be. This is a complete sex manual for practicing Christians with basic facts, illustrations and candid discussion of all facets of human sexuality. Intended For Pleasure is highly recommended reading for newlyweds and an excellent resource for pastors and marriage counselors.

