



What does the Bible teach about Sexuality and Marriage?

Bottom Line: Worship the Creator, not the creation.

Key Scripture: 1 Corinthians 6:18-7:9
Romans 1:18-19,24-32

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.*

The Setup

Sexuality has become a hot topic in the church today and needs to be addressed with the same loving approach given to any other issue. In this study, we will first look at what Scripture identifies as a healthy marital and sexual relationship. Then, we will discuss how to apply that model to questions surrounding sexual orientation and how Jesus would have His followers approach this issue today.

Thought Starters

Growing up, did someone teach you about a healthy marriage and sexual relationship?

If so, how did the conversation come about?

If not, when and how did you put together your current views of marriage and sex?

Questions For Reflection

Read 1 Corinthians 6:18-20. How would you define immorality? How do you think God defines immorality? What are ways in which you “*flee from immorality?*”

If you are a believer in Jesus, Paul says that “*your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you... You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.*” (NIV) If you are married, what do you take away from this passage? What about if you are single?

Read 1 Corinthians 7:1-9. What do these verses communicate about marriage and sex within the context of a marriage?

Read Romans 1:18-19, 24-32. What does this scene communicate about sexual relations? How would you translate this scene into today’s world?

What additional insight does Romans 1:24-32 bring to Paul’s charge to the Corinthians back in 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 and 7:1-9?

Application In Your Life

How does the modern church's typical reaction toward sexual immorality align with what you've seen in Paul's writings? Do you believe this would be Jesus' response? Why or why not?

Do you believe sexual relationships should only exist between men and women? Why or why not? If God intended sexual relationships to exist between men and women, why do some people have homosexual urges?

Can the church show love to those who are struggling with their sexuality without condoning homosexuality? Explain.

Table Talk

This week, spend one meal together with your spouse or a trusted friend discussing the memory verse and questions below. Through this time, you will learn how to integrate God's Word into your everyday life and closest relationships.

"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh." Genesis 2:24

What does it mean to "*become one flesh*?" When you see this term in the Bible, how is it used? What application does this passage have in our culture today?

Close your mealtime in prayer, thanking God for the beauty of His creation and asking for His abounding strength through Christ in all situations.

Go A Little Further



Use the following links on Sexuality and Purity to learn more about walking through sexuality questions and issues personally or with a loved one. You can also find these and other care resources at stonecreekchurch.org.

- **EXODUS International** (www.exodus.to) is the largest information and referral ministry addressing sexuality issues.
- **Love Won Out** (www.lovewonout.com) is a ministry that exhorts and equips the church to respond in a Christ-like way to the issue of homosexuality.
- **Pure Online** (www.pureonline.com) is an online streaming-video recovery program.



READ 'Intended for Pleasure: Sex Technique and Sexual Fulfillment 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.