

## Week 3: Feb. 26

### God's Design For Sex

God is a creator. He created lots of cool things. Show pictures of cool things he created.

God also created sex---If you don't know what I mean when I say "sex," you should ask your parents.

Because he created sex, God cares about sex and how we use it in our lives. He loves us.

It's a topic that cause lots of emotions within us. I know because you're either squirming in your seats or you're curious to learn more. People talk about it. In some ways we've heard it's good and in some ways we've heard it's wrong. When a sexual scene comes up in a movie, perhaps your parents fast-forward and turn it off-which I'm glad they do. But what does that mean? What's the truth about sex?

Tonight I want you to have a biblical understanding of sex---What God has to say about sex in the Bible.

I care what he says because he's the creator.

Who would you rather have teach you about laser eye surgery? Either Patricia Bath, who invented a certain kind of laser surgery for the eye or your friend from math class.

You'd take the person who invented it. God invented sex, so we'd be wise to listen to what he has to say about it.

Our view on what God thinks about sex is based on how Scripture, God's Word, has been interpreted by most Christians for thousands of years.

- Genesis 2:24
  - <sup>24</sup> That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.
- Hebrews 13:4

- <sup>4</sup> Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.
- One man, one woman within marriage...any other sexual contact is not part of God's design...so sex before marriage, sex outside of marriage, gay sex
- You are allowed to disagree with our stance and we'll still love, respect, welcome you
- I am telling you what we believe God tells us in the Bible. Not what we want to be true. I know this is unpopular. But God's word is powerful and authoritative and I am basing my teaching on that.

Why? Why did he create sex? I don't know all the reasons. But I know a few things are possible because of sex.

- Procreation
- Pleasure
- One-ness

Because it's pleasurable there's lots of temptation and things that fall outside his plan.

- Pornography.
- Doing sexual things before you're married.
- Sending sexual photos to others
- Impure thoughts...Matthew 5:27-28

- <sup>27</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.'<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>28</sup> But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

He shares his plan for sex because he cares about us. He's the creator and knows how things work best. If you don't follow the correct order, things can go poorly.

Illustration: Make a turkey sandwich with mustard

He wants what is best for us and to protect us. That's why he wants us to know his design. He gives us boundaries. **Isaiah 48:17-18**

<sup>17</sup> This is what the LORD says—

your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:

"I am the LORD your God,

who teaches you what is best for you,

who directs you in the way you should go.

<sup>18</sup> If only you had paid attention to my commands,  
your peace would have been like a river,  
your well-being like the waves of the sea.

Illustration: Cutting the umbilical cord

God's plan for sex is good, because he created sex and created us and loves us!

We're all going to mess up

- There is forgiveness. 1 John 1:9
  - <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
- All leaders have needed his forgiveness
- Address abuse

"I don't know if I can do this. This seems really challenging to live up to God's standards." That's why you need Jesus. Follow him. Receive his forgiveness. Don't hide.

"Joe I'm in middle school and people don't have sex until they're married."

You can honor God and pursue sexual purity even in middle school with your actions and thoughts toward yourself and other people. It's a lifelong journey that I'm still on, because following Jesus is a lifelong journey.

God's way is the best way. Follow Jesus and you will learn how his way is the best way. It's not always the easiest way, but it's the best!