



God's Perspective on Human Sexuality

GOD – SEX – ROCK & ROLL

In order to be a Godly Man, you need to know how you were made and how you can't do that without talking about sexuality. And that thought will inevitably lead you to "who made you?" Therefore, the journey of knowing yourself as a man leads to talking about God and Sex. They are connected – they can't be separated. This study will not be so much a moral journey as it will be about connection--the connection you have with God and each other, and how that connection can suffer damage when you have little understanding about the divine nature of your body and the true power of sexuality. This series will challenge you to connect with God and your own sexuality in a journey toward wholeness. You will be challenged to ask hard questions about God, Sex, and Yourself! You'll need some good music for such a journey – some good Rock & Roll. Turn on the music and let's Rock.

A Man understands he was made for loving, connected relationship.

Highland Colony Men's Roundtable
www.MensTable.com

God's Perspective on Human Sexuality

June 14, 2018

Bible Verses: I Corinthians 6:9-20; Genesis 1:31; I Corinthians 7:1-5

Music: Can't You See (1977) - Marshall Tucker Band

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=52ai_MFbGDo

Resources: The Meaning of Marriage by Timothy Keller.

Video: Why Is Sex Outside Of Marriage So Destructive? | Tim Keller

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKdSLsGMcnA>

DESIGNED FOR CONNECTION

1. _____ > There is a way things are supposed to be. And that way involves us a human beings connected with each other. God has made us for loving, connected relationships with others.
2. _____ > We struggle in our connection with the earth, in our connections with each other, and with being connected with ourselves. We have been given responsibility to take care of our home, to carefully steward and order and manage it, and we have failed in many ways.
3. _____ > Starts with being sexy on the inside. Our sexuality has two dimensions. First, our sexuality is our awareness of how profoundly we're severed and cut off and disconnected. Second, our sexuality is all of the ways we go about trying to reconnect. Our sexuality is all of the ways we strive to reconnect with our world, with each other, and with God. To be truly sexual is to be connected. When it just sex, it leaves the person deeply unconnected.

SEX MAKES YOU FEEL DEEPLY CONNECTED

1. _____ > Even when used wrongly, sex makes us feel deeply connected to the other person. Unless you deliberately disable it, or through practice you numb the original impulse, sex makes you feel personally interwoven and joined to another human being, as you are literally physically joined. In the midst of sexual passion, you naturally want to say extravagant things such as, "I'll always love you."
2. _____ > Even if you are not legally married, you may find yourself quickly feeling such. But that other person has no legal, social, or moral responsibility to even call you back in the morning. This incongruity leads to jealousy and hurt feelings and obsessiveness if two people are having sex but are not married.
3. _____ > If you have sex outside of marriage, you will have to steel yourself against sex's power to soften your heart toward another person and make you more trusting. The problem is that, eventually, sex will lose its covenant-making power for you, even if you one day do get married.

PERSONAL & CULTURAL ATTITUDES TOWARD SEX

1. _____: Sex as natural appetite. Greek and Roman view of sex was that it's like any other bodily activity, such as eating or sleeping. Modern view, prominent in today's public school sex education, is that we should understand the natural biological drive of sex, realize that if we are not careful sexual activity can have negative consequences, master it like any other skill, and be responsible. Sex is an inevitable biological drive. Sex is right if it's safe.
2. _____: Sex as animal passion. Hellenistic philosophy viewed the spirit as the highest good and the body as "lesser." This led to viewing sex as degrading, dirty thing, a necessary evil for the propagation of the human race. Unfortunately, this view took root in many places in the Christian church. Truly spiritual people should refrain from sex, sex is allowable only if you are trying to have children, sexual pleasure is not appropriate for high-minded people. Sex is a necessary evil. Sex is naturally tainted in some way because the flesh inhibits the spirit.
3. _____: Sex as repressed creativity. Human beings are full of goodness and creativity. Goodness is achieved by liberating the basic, primal instincts, which are in each person as pure. Sex is a critical way of self-expression, a way to "be yourself" or "find yourself." Sex is about the quality of interpersonal love and is the primary touchstone that makes sex right or wrong.

THE CHRISTIAN VIEW OF SEX

1. _____ > God created sex (Gen. 1:13). God would not create and command something to be done in marriage (I Cor. 7:3-5) that was not good. The Song of Solomon is filled with barefaced rejoicing in sexual pleasure. The Bible can be very uncomfortable for the prudish.
2. _____ > All by themselves, sexual appetites are not a safe guide, and we are instructed to flee our lusts (I Cor. 6:18). Our sexual appetite does not operate the same as our other appetites. C. S. Lewis asks us to imagine a planet where people pay money to watch someone eat a mutton chop, where people ogle magazine picture of food. If we landed on such a planet, we would think that the appetite of these people was seriously deranged. Yet that is just how modern people approach sex.
3. _____ > The Bible views sex not primarily as self-fulfillment but as a way to know Christ and build His kingdom.

ACTION: Journal this!

1. When do you feel most connected to God, yourself, and another?
2. When do you feel most disconnected?
3. How has sex brought connection to you and how has it made you feel more disconnected?

Bible Verses – The Message

I Corinthians 6:9-20 – ¹² Just because something is technically legal doesn't mean that it's spiritually appropriate. If I went around doing whatever I thought I could get by with, I'd be a slave to my whims. ¹³ You know the old saying, "First you eat to live, and then you live to eat"? Well, it may be true that the body is only a temporary thing, but that's no excuse for stuffing your body with food, or indulging it with sex. Since the Master honors you with a body, honor him with your body! ¹⁴ God honored the Master's body by raising it from the grave. He'll treat yours with the same resurrection power. ¹⁵ Until that time, remember that your bodies are created with the same dignity as the Master's body. You wouldn't take the Master's body off to a whorehouse, would you? I should hope not. ¹⁶ There's more to sex than mere skin on skin. Sex is as much spiritual mystery as physical fact. As written in Scripture, "The two become one." ¹⁷ Since we want to become spiritually one with the Master, we must not pursue the kind of sex that avoids commitment and intimacy, leaving us more lonely than ever - the kind of sex that can never "become one." ¹⁸ There is a sense in which sexual sins are different from all others. In sexual sin we violate the sacredness of our own bodies, these bodies that were made for God-given and God-modeled love, for "becoming one" with another. ¹⁹ Or didn't you realize that your

body is a sacred place, the place of the Holy Spirit? Don't you see that you can't live however you please, squandering what God paid such a high price for? The physical part of you is not some piece of property belonging to the spiritual part of you. ²⁰ God owns the whole works. So let people see God in and through your body.

Genesis 1:31 – ³¹ God looked over everything he had made; it was so good, so very good! It was evening, it was morning - Day Six.

I Corinthians 7:1-5 – ¹ Now, getting down to the questions you asked in your letter to me. First, Is it a good thing to have sexual relations? ² Certainly - but only within a certain context. It's good for a man to have a wife, and for a woman to have a husband. Sexual drives are strong, but marriage is strong enough to contain them and provide for a balanced and fulfilling sexual life in a world of sexual disorder. ³ The marriage bed must be a place of mutuality - the husband seeking to satisfy his wife, the wife seeking to satisfy her husband. ⁴ Marriage is not a place to "stand up for your rights." Marriage is a decision to serve the other, whether in bed or out. ⁵ Abstaining from sex is permissible for a period of time if you both agree to it, and if it's for the purposes of prayer and fasting - but only for such times. Then come back together again. Satan has an ingenious way of tempting us when we least expect it.

"Can't You See"
The Marshall Tucker Band

Gonna take a freight train
 Down at the station, Lord
 I don't care where it goes
 Gonna climb a mountain
 The highest mountain
 Jump off, nobody gonna know

Can't you see, whoa, can't you see
 What that woman, Lord, she been doin' to me
 Can't you see, can't you see
 What that woman, she been doin' to me

I'm gonna find me
 A hole in the wall
 I'm gonna crawl inside and die
 'Cause my lady, now
 A mean ol' woman, Lord
 Never told me goodbye

Can't you see, oh, can't you see
 What that woman, Lord, she been doin' to me
 Can't you see, can't you see
 What that woman, Lord, she been doin' to me

I'm gonna buy a ticket, now
 As far as I can

Ain't a-never comin' back
 Ride me a southbound
 All the way to Georgia, now
 Till the train, it run out of track

Can't you see, oh, can't you see
 What that woman, Lord, she been doin' to me
 Can't you see, can't you see
 What that woman, she been doin' to me

Can't you see, whoa, can't you see
 What that woman, Lord, she been doin' to me
 Can't you see, whoa, can't you see
 What that woman, she been doin' to me

Can't you see (oh, she's such a crazy lady), can't you see
 What that woman, she been doin' to me
 Can't you see (Lord, I can't stand), can't you see
 What that woman, she been doin' to me

Can't you see (I'm gonna take a freight train), can't you see (down at the station, Lord)
 What that woman, she been doin' to me (ain't never comin' back)
 Can't you see (gonna ride me a southbound, now), can't you see (all the way to Georgia, Lord)
 What that woman, she been doin' to me (till the train run out of track)

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LOVE

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GOD – SEX – ROCK & ROLL

IN ORDER TO BE A GODLY MAN, YOU NEED TO KNOW HOW YOU WERE MADE AND HOW YOU CAN'T DO THAT WITHOUT TALKING ABOUT SEXUALITY. AND THAT THOUGHT WILL INEVITABLY LEAD YOU TO "WHO MADE YOU?" THEREFORE, THE JOURNEY OF KNOWING YOURSELF AS A MAN LEADS TO TALKING ABOUT GOD AND SEX. THEY ARE CONNECTED – THEY CAN'T BE SEPARATED. THIS STUDY WILL NOT BE SO MUCH A MORAL JOURNEY AS IT WILL BE ABOUT CONNECTION--THE CONNECTION YOU HAVE WITH GOD AND EACH OTHER, AND HOW THAT CONNECTION CAN SUFFER DAMAGE WHEN YOU HAVE LITTLE UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE DIVINE NATURE OF YOUR BODY AND THE TRUE POWER OF SEXUALITY. THIS SERIES WILL CHALLENGE YOU TO CONNECT WITH GOD AND YOUR OWN SEXUALITY IN A JOURNEY TOWARD WHOLENESS. YOU WILL BE CHALLENGED TO ASK HARD QUESTIONS ABOUT GOD, SEX, AND YOURSELF! YOU'LL NEED SOME GOOD MUSIC FOR SUCH A JOURNEY – SOME GOOD ROCK & ROLL. TURN ON THE MUSIC AND LET'S ROCK.

YOU WERE MADE FOR LOVING, CONNECTED RELATIONSHIPS

1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-20



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1. **CONNECTION** > There is a way things are supposed to be. And that way involves us a human beings connected with each other. God has made us for loving, connected relationships with others.
2. **DISCONNECTION** > We struggle in our connection with the earth, in our connections with each other, and with being connected with ourselves. We have been given responsibility to take care of our home, to carefully steward and order and manage it, and we have failed in many ways.
3. **SEXUALITY** > Starts with being sexy on the inside. Our sexuality has two dimensions. First, our sexuality is our awareness of how profoundly we're severed and cut off and disconnected. Second, our sexuality is all of the ways we go about trying to reconnect. Our sexuality is all of the ways we strive to reconnect with our world, with each other, and with God. To be truly sexual is to be connected. When it just sex, it leaves the person deeply unconnected.



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1. **JOINED TO ANOTHER PERSON** > Even when used wrongly, sex makes us feel deeply connected to the other person. Unless you deliberately disable it, or through practice you numb the original impulse, sex makes you feel personally interwoven and joined to another human being, as you are literally physically joined. In the midst of sexual passion, you naturally want to say extravagant things such as, “I’ll always love you.”
2. **Marriage-like Ties** > Even if you are not legally married, you may find yourself quickly feeling such. But that other person has no legal, social, or moral responsibility to even call you back in the morning. This incongruity leads to jealousy and hurt feelings and obsessiveness if two people are having sex but are not married.
3. **Unable to Commit & Trust** > If you have sex outside of marriage, you will have to steel yourself against sex’s power to soften your heart toward another person and make you more trusting. The problem is that, eventually, sex will lose its covenant-making power for you, even if you one day do get married.



PERSONAL & CULTURAL ATTITUDES TOWARD SEX

1. **Sexual Realism**: Sex as natural appetite. Greek and Roman view of sex was that it's like any other bodily activity, such as eating or sleeping. Modern view, prominent in today's public school sex education, is that we should understand the natural biological drive of sex, realize that if we are not careful sexual activity can have negative consequences, master it like any other skill, and be responsible. Sex is an inevitable biological drive. Sex is right if it's safe.
2. **Sexual Platonism**: Sex as animal passion. Hellenistic philosophy viewed the spirit as the highest good and the body as "lesser." This led to viewing sex as degrading, dirty thing, a necessary evil for the propagation of the human race. Unfortunately, this view took root in many places in the Christian church. Truly spiritual people should refrain from sex, sex is allowable only if you are trying to have children, sexual pleasure is not appropriate for high-minded people. Sex is a necessary evil. Sex is naturally tainted in some way because the flesh inhibits the spirit.
3. **Sexual Romanticism**: Sex as repressed creativity. Human beings are full of goodness and creativity. Goodness is achieved by liberating the basic, primal instincts, which are in each person as pure. Sex is a critical way of self-expression, a way to "be yourself" or "find yourself." Sex is about the quality of interpersonal love and is the primary touchstone that makes sex right or wrong.



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1. **SEX IS GOOD** > God created sex (Gen. 1:13). God would not create and command something to be done in marriage (I Cor. 7:3-5) that was not good. The Song of Solomon is filled with barefaced rejoicing in sexual pleasure. The Bible can be very uncomfortable for the prudish.
2. **Sexual Desires are Broken and Usually Idolatrous** > All by themselves, sexual appetites are not a safe guide, and we are instructed to flee our lusts (I Cor. 6:18). Our sexual appetite does not operate the same as our other appetites. C. S. Lewis asks us to imagine a planet where people pay money to watch someone eat a mutton chop, where people ogle magazine picture of food. If we landed on such a planet, we would think that the appetite of these people was seriously deranged. Yet that is just how modern people approach sex.
3. **Sex is not primary for Personal Happiness** > The Bible views sex not primarily as self-fulfillment but as a way to know Christ and build His kingdom.



ACTION: JOURNAL THIS!

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