

SEX

"Then God made a woman and brought her to the man. 'This is it!' Adam exclaimed. The man and his wife were both naked, but neither was embarrassed or ashamed."

(Genesis 2:22,25)

We should not be ashamed to talk about what God was not ashamed to create!

1. WHY GOD CREATED SEX...

► For unity

(so a man and a woman can fulfill God's will / their life purpose in complementary roles)

"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."

(Ephesians 5:31)

► For pleasure

"Be happy, yes rejoice in your wife. Let her tender embrace satisfy you. Let her love alone fill you with delight."

(Proverbs 5:18-19)

► For children

(and a godly heritage)

"God blessed Adam and Eve and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, and over every living Creature that moves on the ground.'"

2. WHY SAVE "SEX" FOR MARRIAGE? ...

... to safeguard your highest earthly relationships: **MARRIAGE & FAMILY**

American culture today is saturated in sexual obsession.

The Bible says: *"Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body."* (1 Corinthians 6:18)

"Sexual sin" results when we use this beautiful gift of God in ways He never intended, and we damage and destroy ourselves.

The Bible teaches that sex outside of marriage is a "sin" against:

1. God
2. Spouse (or future spouse)
3. Our own body
4. Church body
5. Other person

God created "marriage" as His righteous context in which to express our God-given sexual passion. His wisdom for "safe sex" is: "abstinence" before marriage, "fidelity" within marriage.

Pray, trust God, and eagerly anticipate your future mate in marriage. Wait on God's timing. If you have sinned sexually ~ seek Him, and let the powerful forgiveness of Christ wash you clean!

The Bible reminds: *"Do not arouse or awaken love until it so desires."* (Song of Songs 2:7, 3:5)

Parents! - Protect the soul of your son/daughter: the number one way teens access pornography is on cell phones that have Internet Access (no “filtering” is available). They can also “picture text” pornography or lewd pictures. Insist that your cell provider remove Internet access from your child’s phone (or get them a different phone).

When we say “NO” to non-marital sex, we are saying “YES” to something far better!

3. THREE KEYS TO FULFILLING SEXUAL INTIMACY...

▶ The right attitude

"For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected, but all is to be received with a prayer of thanks." (1 Timothy 4:4) "Marriage is honorable and the marriage bed undefiled" (Hebrews 13:4) "Be happy, yes rejoice in your wife. Let her tender embrace satisfy you. Let her love alone fill you with delight." (Prov. 5:18-19) "Use every part of your body to glorify God." (1 Cor. 6:20)

▶ The right atmosphere

"You have made me eager for love." (Song of Songs 6:12)

Creating the Atmosphere...

(from the "Song of Songs")

- Fragrances (1:12)
- Complimenting (1:15-16)
- Affectionate touching (2:6)
- Attractive attire (4:9,11)
- Intimate talk (4:16)
- Unhurried time (5:1)
- Special places (7:12)
- Total commitment (8:6-7)

▶ The right adjustments

"A man should fulfill his duty as a husband and a woman should fulfill her duty as a wife, and each should satisfy the other's needs. The wife's body doesn't belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband's body doesn't belong to him alone but also to his wife." (1 Corinthians 7:3-4) "You husbands must be careful of your wives, being thoughtful of their needs." (1 Peter 3:7) "Do not cheat each other of normal sexual relations, unless you both decide to abstain temporarily to make special time for prayer. But afterwards you should resume relations as before, or you will expose yourselves to the obvious temptations of satan." (1 Corinthians 7:7)