

onechurch

bigIdea

There are some subjects that the church doesn't talk about, the first and foremost being sex. Yet, when you go to the Bible, God speaks a lot about sex. And what He says may surprise you. God isn't anti-sex. God doesn't think sex is dirty. Sex was God's idea. He created it. And we are to enjoy sexual intimacy, in the context of marriage.



BIG IDEA: Sex God's way and in God's context is a great and godly thang!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What makes this topic such a hot topic to talk about? Why don't you think more churches talk about sexual intimacy, especially since God speaks so much about it?
2. Many people have a lot of responses to the word *sex*. Read these responses below, and speculate where they're coming from? "When you think of the topic of sex, what do you think about?"
 - a. Sex is a dirty word.
 - b. Sex is dangerous.
 - c. Sex is a beautiful experience between a husband and wife.
 - d. Sex is a very painful thing to think or talk about.
 - e. Sex can be as godly an act as taking care of the homeless.
3. *Read Genesis 1:26-28.* What does it mean to you that we were created in God's image? Does knowing this help you feel better about yourself? Your spouse?
4. Male and female jointly express God's image. What does that mean?
5. In Genesis 1:26, God talks about Himself as an us. Why do you think that? How is the idea of the Trinity hard to understand? What picture did God give us so that we can understand His oneness?
6. G. K. Chesterton said, "Everyman who knocks on the door of a brothel is looking for God." What do you think he is talking about? What does our longings inside of us to be known and loved by someone tell us about God, the One who gave us those longings?
7. *Read Genesis 2:15-25.* Why do you think God told Adam to name all of the animals? How do you think that task prepared him for God's declaration 2:18?
8. Genesis 2:18 is the first place where God says, "It is *not* good." Why do you think God says it is not good for Adam to be alone?
 - a. Two reflect God's image better than one.
 - b. Adam was lonely.
 - c. animals made poor conversationalists
 - d. God created Adam for a desire to connect with others.
9. Why do you think God called Eve a 'helper suitable for him?' What was God implying? God describes Himself as a helper to us (Hosea 13:9, Psalm 115:9-11). What help does that give you in answering this question?
10. What about the intimacy and openness experienced in this chapter seems *normal* to you? What seems *abnormal* in your terms of experience?
11. *Read Genesis 2:25.* Sex inside the context of marriage is not a shameful thing. When does sex become full of shame?

THINK ABOUT IT

Before two people are married, the evil one does everything he can do to push people to have sex. Once they are married, the evil one does all he can do to get them to not have sex. That's not God's design! That is not God's plan! God's design is the other way around. ***Sex is a great gift from God opened in the context of marriage.***

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

God created us to pursue oneness and intimacy in marriage. If you're married, how will you pursue your spouse this week and communicate to them how important they are to you? If you're not married, what boundaries and decisions will you make this week to respect the oneness and intimacy of marriage?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

God spoke: "Let us make human beings in our image, He created them male and female. God blessed them: "Prosper! Reproduce!" Genesis 1:26a, 27-28