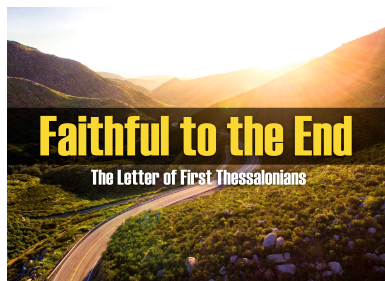


SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

Living to Please the King

With Ryan Dawson, Lead Pastor
February 28, 2021



- **God has a design for everything.**

Genesis 1:27 (NLT) “So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.”

Genesis 2:22 (NLT) “Then the LORD made a woman from the rib, and he brought her to the man. ‘At last!’ the man exclaimed. ‘This is bone from my bone, and flesh from my flesh! She will be called ‘woman,’ because she was taken from ‘man.’” This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.”

Matthew 19:3-6 (NLT) Some Pharisees came and tried to trap him with this question: “Should a man be allowed to divorce his wife for just any reason?” ⁴ “Haven’t you read the Scriptures?” Jesus replied. “They record that from the beginning ‘God made them male and female.’” ⁵ And he said, “‘This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.’” ⁶ Since they are no longer two but one, let no one split apart what God has joined together.”

Ephesians 5:31-33 (NLT) As the Scriptures say, “A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.” ³² This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. ³³ So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

- **God has a specific design for marriage and sexuality.**

Genesis 2:25
Song of Songs 1:1-4, 4:1-16, 5:1
Proverbs 5:18-19
1 Corinthians 7:3-4
Hebrews 14:3

- **Sex is a sacred gift from God to be enjoyed in the context of Biblical marriage.**

Thessalonians 4:1-11 (NLT) Finally, dear brothers and sisters, we urge you in the name of the Lord Jesus to live in a way that pleases God, as we have taught you. You live this way already, and we encourage you to do so even more. ² For you remember what we taught you by the authority of the Lord Jesus. ³ God’s will is for you to be holy, so stay away from all sexual sin. ⁴ Then each of you will control his own body and live in holiness and honour—⁵ not in lustful passion like the pagans who do not know God and his ways. ⁶ Never harm or cheat a fellow believer in this matter by violating his wife, for the Lord avenges all such sins, as we have solemnly warned you before. ⁷ God has called us to live holy lives, not impure lives. ⁸ Therefore, anyone who refuses to live by these rules is not disobeying human teaching but is rejecting God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

- **The word for “sexual sin” or “sexual immorality” is porneia.**

Matthew 15:19 (NLT) “For from the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, all sexual immorality, theft, lying, and slander. These are what defile you.”

Ephesians 5:3 (NIV) “But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people.”

1 Corinthians 6:19 “Flee from sexual immorality...”

Colossians 3:5

- **Sexual activity is to be reserved for the beautiful & sacred gift of marriage, where we see unity in diversity, mutual love, equality, submission, commitment, respect, & permanence between a husband and wife.**

- **God’s grace covers all sin including sexual sin.**

John 1:5-10

Romans 8:1 (NLT) “So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.”

Big Idea: Submit to God’s loving design for sexuality to experience flourishing.

The Translation of the Bible Scriptures used in today’s 10:10 service is from the New Living Translation (NLT) and the New International Version (NIV).



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we live out our identity as a Family of Servants on Mission.
 To get plugged in email:
impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

**Living to Please the King
 #4 of 7 - February 28, 2020**

- 1) What stood out to you in this message and what questions did it raise?
- 2) Read Genesis 1:27 and 2:22. What do we learn about how God made us from these verses? What does this tell us about marriage and sexuality?
- 3) Read Matthew 19:3-6 and Ephesians 5:31-33. How does Jesus and Paul endorse a view that God has a specific design for marriage and sexuality.? In what ways do they expand our understanding? Why is it significant that Jesus mentions sexual difference in his response to the religious leaders?
- 4) What do we learn about marriage and sexual intimacy from these passages?

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 Hebrews 14:3

- 5) Read 1 Thessalonians 4:1-11. What is God's will in this passage? What does it look like to be holy as it relates to sexuality? What warnings do we see here?
- 6) What do you learn about sexuality from these passages? What action steps does this require from us?

Matthew 15:19
 Ephesians 5:3
 1 Corinthians 6:19
 Colossians 3:5

7) Discuss this statement & highlight what questions you still have: **Sexual activity is to be reserved for the beautiful & sacred gift of marriage, where we see unity in diversity, mutual love, equality, submission, commitment, respect, & permanence between a husband and wife.**

8) Read and reflect on 1 John 1:5-10 and Romans 8:1. God's grace covers all sin! What action step is God asking you to take today in light of your study?

9) Take time as an IC to pray and plan engagement around the "Helping the Homeless" Missional Focus for Feb. and March.



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