

THE TALK  
Exodus 20:14 (CSB)

*Do not commit adultery.*

Exodus 20:14 (CSB)

*I say to the unmarried and to widows: It is good for them if they remain as I am.*

1 Corinthians 7:8 (CSB)

1. This guardrail PROTECTS us from OURSELVES.

*Now in response to the matters you wrote about: "It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman."<sup>2</sup> But because sexual immorality is so common, each man should have sexual relations with his own wife, and each woman should have sexual relations with her own husband.<sup>3</sup> A husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise a wife to her husband.<sup>4</sup> A wife does not have the right over her own body, but her husband does. In the same way, a husband does not have the right over his own body, but his wife does.<sup>5</sup> Do not deprive one another—except when you agree for a time, to devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again; otherwise, Satan may tempt you because of your lack of self-control.<sup>6</sup> I say this as a concession, not as a command.*

1 Corinthians 7:1-6 (CSB)

*Marriage is to be honored by all and the marriage bed kept undefiled, because God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers.*

Hebrews 13:4 (CSB)

*I wish that all people were as I am. But each has his own gift from God, one person has this gift, another has that.<sup>8</sup> I say to the unmarried and to widows: It is good for them if they remain as I am.<sup>9</sup> But if they do not have self-control, they should marry, since it is better to marry than to burn with desire.*

1 Corinthians 7:7-9 (CSB)

*I want you to be without concerns. The unmarried man is concerned about the things of the Lord—how he may please the Lord.<sup>33</sup> But the married man is concerned about the things of the world—how he may please his wife—<sup>34</sup> and his interests are divided. The unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the things of the Lord, so that she may be holy both in body and in spirit. But the married woman is concerned about the things of the world—how she may please her husband.<sup>35</sup> I am saying this for your own benefit, not to put a restraint on you, but to promote what is proper and so that you may be devoted to the Lord without distraction.*

1 Corinthians 7:32-35 (CSB)

2. This guardrail brings us CLOSER to GOD.

*For no one ever hates his own flesh but provides and cares for it, just as Christ does for the church,<sup>30</sup> since we are members of his body.<sup>31</sup> For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.<sup>32</sup> This mystery is profound, but I am talking about Christ and the church.*

Ephesians 5:29-32 (CSB)

*Husbands, in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with a weaker partner, showing them honor as coheirs of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered.*

1 Peter 3:7 (CSB)

### 3. The GOSPEL fills in the GAP between the guardrails.

*"If a man has two wives, one loved and the other neglected, and both the loved and the neglected bear him sons, and if the neglected wife has the firstborn son,<sup>16</sup> when that man gives what he has to his sons as an inheritance, he is not to show favoritism to the son of the loved wife as his firstborn over the firstborn of the neglected wife.<sup>17</sup> He must acknowledge the firstborn, the son of the neglected wife, by giving him two shares of his estate, for he is the firstfruits of his virility; he has the rights of the firstborn."*

Deuteronomy 21:15-17 (CSB)

*An overseer, therefore, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, self-controlled, sensible, respectable, hospitable, able to teach...*

1 Timothy 3:2 (CSB)

*An elder must be blameless, the husband of one wife, with faithful children who are not accused of wildness or rebellion.*

Titus 1:6 (CSB)

*When Jesus had finished saying these things, he departed from Galilee and went to the region of Judea across the Jordan.<sup>2</sup> Large crowds followed him, and he healed them there.<sup>3</sup> Some Pharisees approached him to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife on any grounds?"<sup>4</sup> "Haven't you read," he replied, "that he who created them in the beginning made them male and female,<sup>5</sup> and he also said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh?'<sup>6</sup> So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate."*

Matthew 19:1-6 (CSB)

*Jesus answered, "If you knew the gift of God, and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would ask him, and he would give you living water."<sup>11</sup> "Sir," said the woman, "you don't even have a bucket, and the well is deep. So where do you get this 'living water'?"<sup>12</sup> You aren't greater than our father Jacob, are you? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and livestock."<sup>13</sup> Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks from this water will get thirsty again.<sup>14</sup> But whoever drinks from the water that I will give him will never get thirsty again. In fact, the water I will give him will become a well*

of water springing up in him for eternal life.”<sup>15</sup> “Sir,” the woman said to him, “give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and come here to draw water.”<sup>16</sup> “Go call your husband,” he told her, “and come back here.”<sup>17</sup> “I don’t have a husband,” she answered. “You have correctly said, ‘I don’t have a husband,’ ” Jesus said.<sup>18</sup> “For you’ve had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.”<sup>19</sup> “Sir,” the woman replied, “I see that you are a prophet.”

John 4:10-19 (CSB)

Just then his disciples arrived, and they were amazed that he was talking with a woman. Yet no one said, “What do you want?” or “Why are you talking with her?”<sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar, went into town, and told the people,<sup>29</sup> “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?”<sup>30</sup> They left the town and made their way to him.

John 4:27-30 (CSB)