

Heavenly Intimacy: A Biblical Understanding of Sex

The _____ of sex

1. At one extreme are those who consider bad the physical desire for sex (many past generations thought this way).
2. At the other extreme are those to whom sex is the epitome of human experience.
3. In a culture that looks at people as ultimate God as absent and pleasure as the highest experience, it is no wonder that sexuality becomes such a dominant force.
 - It provides a _____ pathway to instant physical _____.
 - It provides _____ worship (counterfeiting the first great command) and _____ relationship (counterfeiting the second great command).
4. Sex is not the focal point of any relationship or society.
 - It is not in any way the _____ to healthy or successful living.
 - It is most definitely not _____, _____, or _____.
5. Created and instituted by God
 - God called it _____ (Genesis 1)
 - It is as _____ and _____ as praying, preaching, tithing, witnessing, or reading the Bible
 - It is an expression of _____ and _____
 - It is for _____
 - It is for _____
 - It is for _____, not _____
 - It is only to be enjoyed by a male _____ and his female _____
 - Pure sexual _____ comes from _____ God and _____ your spouse

Pure sex may be defined as sexual _____ created by God for the purpose of procreation and pleasure-giving of the husband _____ his wife and the wife _____ her husband as an expression of their committed _____ and oneness to the _____ and honor of God.

6. Sex is a gift from God created for our mutual benefit
 - Wives, you are the _____ woman who can righteously sexually satisfy your own husband.

- Husbands, you are the _____ man who can righteously sexually satisfy your own wife.
7. Sex is designed by God to be satisfying to both, gloriously stimulating the senses (Prov 5:15-21)
- Wife is to _____ her husband (Song of Solomon 5:10-16)
 - Husband is to _____ his wife (Song of Solomon 4:1-7; 7:1-9)
8. Each male and female body is uniquely designed to satisfy the other, with power and authority given to each spouse over the other's body (1 Cor 7:3-5)
- This means that either may also be the _____
 - Sexual union is a marriage _____
 - A married couple is to abstain only by advance _____
 - How _____ is biblical?

The _____ with sex

1. We want to _____ our self
2. We seek to _____ our self instead of our spouse
3. We struggle with immoral behavior
 - _____ (object of lust)
 - _____, which is sexual activity between two unmarried people
 - _____, which is sexual activity between two with at least one of them married to someone else.
 - _____
 - Lack of loving _____ in people's lives
 - _____ conscience
 - Set apart for the _____ instead of for God
4. We struggle with immoral thinking and desires
 - Remember from where _____ arises (James 1:14; Mark 7:21-23)
 - Worship of _____, not God

- Seeking _____, not the things of God or the love of others
- Being _____ (not wanting to be vulnerable or intimate)
- Being comfortable (not wanting to work at intimacy)
- To get immediate _____
- Ultimately, it is a heart that is not content with what God has given and is committed to seeking pleasure for self
- It is a heart that is _____ and self-centered

The _____ of _____ in sex

1. Because of the grace of God in choosing, calling, redeeming, and adopting us, we strive to _____ God
 - So, our constant pursuit is that of pleasing and glorifying God
 - We desire from the heart to do His will not ours
 - We strive to be farther and farther away from sexual immorality, so that it would not in any way be named among us (Eph 5:3; Prov 14:16; 22:3)

2. We need a _____ mind (remember the Christian life is lived in the mind as much as behaviorally)
 - Sex is a key way we express _____ (Rom 1:18-27)
 - Sex is a key way we express our _____ (1 Cor 6:12-20)
 - You are a servant of Christ
 - You are an eternal being
 - You are one with Christ
 - You are the property of Christ
 - Sex is a key revealer of your _____ (Eph 5:3-7; Matt 5:28; Rom 1:24)
 - Avoid all appearance of sexual immorality (3)
 - Avoid all obscene talk about sex (4-5)
 - Avoid all deception (6-7)
 - Sex always involves the thoughts, motives, desires, demands, expectations, treasures, or idols of the heart.

- Sex is a key revealer of your need of _____ (Rom 7:7-25)
3. Do not _____ on _____ techniques (Col 2:23)
 - Self-control techniques like cold showers, exercise, staying busy and scriptural mantras may keep your lust at bay for a time, but they will not eliminate it.
 - These techniques are helpful at first, but they must come in second to putting off the things of the old man replacing them with the things of the new man (Col 3:1-5; Gal 5:16).
 - This is not a one time, event by event, but a lifetime of warfare. Desires do not go away simply because we want them to. **They fade only when a greater desire replaces them.**
 - Then, we apply self-control, because we desire what God desires for us. This is the good kind of lust.
 4. Don't flirt with sexual immorality (Rom 13:14; Prov 5:8; 6:25, 27; 7:6-9)
 5. Put off and put on (Eph 4:22-24)
 - Sexual lies of the world with sexual truth of God's Word (Ps 119:9)
 - Seeking your pleasure and gratification to that of loving God and others
 - Discontentment and ungratefulness with thanksgiving
 - Avoiding involvement in people's lives to being lovingly involved with others
 - Not taking the subtlety of lustful thoughts and lust feeders serious with doing immediate battle in renewing your mind with Scripture
 - Laziness with hard work and diligence
 6. You must be committed to:
 - Fleeing lust
 - Loving God
 - Loving others
 7. Have hope (1 Cor 10:13; Rom 8:37)
 - Sexual sin is as forgivable as any other sin – God's mercy is plentiful
 - Sexual sin is as conquerable as any other sin – God's grace is sufficient