

Marriage: A Practical Theology

LESSON 13: I'M SUPPOSED TO HAVE SEX WITH YOU

Intro:

Big Idea: God wants us to enjoy _____ in the _____ of _____.

Now concerning the matters about which you wrote: “It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.”² But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband.³ The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband.⁴ For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.⁵ Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. **1 Corinthians 7**

Abstinence Isn't Always a Virtue

- This issue is in _____ to something someone _____ to him.
- The words are probably better translated “_____” and “_____”.
- Some of the “super-apostles” were apparently teaching _____ in marriage.

“Spirituality”

- Some people confuse sexual _____ with _____.
- _____ had lots of sexual baggage.
- He affirmed the movement toward celibacy & sex as _____.
- By the Middle Ages the Catholic Church has placed sex off limits for _____ days a year.
- Sex within marriage is part of the _____ order, and therefore not sinful.

Anger

- Some people use sex for _____ / _____.
- Anger creates _____ in any relationship.
- If anger is prolonged there is a _____ or _____ of the sexual relationship.
- Men often use _____ to feel close while women often need to feel close to have _____.
- Anger means a man doesn't _____ to feel close, and a woman doesn't _____ close.
- The cycle of anger & rejection is broken by the gospel provision of _____.

“Unattractive”

- Some couples stop having sex because one feels unattractive; embarrassed to be _____.

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- Some stop because one partner finds the other _____ unattractive.
- Both are focused on _____, and are not focused on loving their spouse.
- No one will be “forever young”. _____ & _____ get us all.
- Some people let themselves go: no _____ & _____.
- _____ and _____ are sinful in themselves, and should be addressed.
- We should care for our bodies, but not worship them or conform to cultural demands.
- Maintain a _____ body in obedience to _____ and a _____ to your spouse.
- Love continues to _____ the other person with their wrinkles, hair loss, etc.

Baggage (or Everybody Has a Sexual Agenda)

- Most of us will enter into marriage with sexual baggage: _____, abuse, porn.
- Sexual baggage will affect the marriage relationship, especially when it is _____.
- Sexual abuse often results in _____ of desire: hyper-sexual or sexual anorexia.
- The answer to what we’ve done and what’s been done to us is the _____ of Christ.
- We can find _____, and the capacity to _____ abusers, in Christ.

Fear

- _____ is no small thing: tests, plays, sports, work presentations.
- Performance anxiety enters with _____ expectations & _____.
- Age affects a man’s _____ so he can avoid sexual situations out of fear of ED.
- Meet one another in your _____, aware of their _____ & _____.

Boredom

- Boredom is another result of _____.
- The real thing is not like most _____: clumsy, messy, not in control ...
- Addicted to _____ experiences resulting in new practices w/out _____.

Tempting the Tempter

- _____ was the cause of the hyper-spirituality of some Corinthians.
- Chapter 6 Paul had been discussing our _____ with Christ & the _____.
- Some were not _____ God with their bodies but uniting Christ w/_____.
- There may have been some _____ teaching that bodily sins didn’t affect the _____.
- Some frustrated spouses may have sort sexual release through _____.
- Some never changed their sexual _____ in coming to _____ who changes it.

²⁸ A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls. **Proverbs 25**

- The _____ knows about our lack of self-control & exploits opportunities.
- He wants to render us ineffective for the kingdom thru _____ and _____.
- Satan renders us ineffective by _____ us to sin sexually, appealing to our _____.
- He may suggest _____ solution to satisfy our _____ longings & desire.
- He may also inflame us with _____ longings and desires. _____!
- His suggestions take advantage of our sexual _____, weaknesses & past _____.
- He renders us ineffective thru the accompanying guilt & shame. _____ of exposure!

Proper Abstinence

- 1st it must be by _____ agreement. The usual reasons are one-sided, not mutual.
- Remember: you are your spouse's only _____ avenue of sexual expression.
- 2nd it must be for an agreed upon _____ of time. Can't be _____.
- The 2 of you need to _____ it through and come to an _____ good for both.
- 3rd there must be a legitimate _____ for the sexual hiatus: time & energy to grow.
- Time to deal with our sexual _____ or restore _____ after sexual _____.
- To _____ & _____ for family or church _____ which are serious.

Living on This Side of the Cross

- Sex & marriage clearly show us how much we need Jesus to _____ us from _____.
- _____ has joined sex with marriage while _____ keeps trying to tear them apart.
- Corrupting them is part of his plan to _____ our dignity & deepen our _____.
- Seen w/in the Story, sex paradoxically becomes _____ important & _____ pleasurable.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. **Galatians 5**

Delight in Giving Delight

- *"Each man should love his own wife and each woman her own husband."*
- Enjoy the _____ sexual relationship you and your spouse are _____ to enjoy.
- This instruction is for both of them because both lack _____ - _____ & can sin.
- Our spouse should be the _____ of our sexual delight, and we should be theirs.

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¹⁸ Let your fountain be blessed,
and rejoice in the wife of your youth,
¹⁹ a lovely deer, a graceful doe.
Let her breasts fill you at all times with delight;
be intoxicated always in her love. **Proverbs 5**

- “The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband.”
- Paul refers to paying a _____ or _____ that we have to our spouse.
- Both spouses have a sexual _____ to one another; conjugal rights & _____.
- Paul goes farther: you don’t have _____ over your body- your spouse has it!
- Therefore: “Do not deprive one another.” You serve your spouse with your body.

“Neither partner has the right without good cause to refuse the other.” **Richard Pratt**
“The spiritual beauty of sexuality is seen in service, lovingly meeting the physical needs and desires of our mate.” **Gary Thomas**

- The Bible views sex within marriage as both _____ and _____.
- The _____ of sexual sin does not imply the _____ of sex.
- As we face the reality of our fallen natures, we will see how _____ we are.
- We make sex all about ____: _____ pleasures, _____ fears ...
- Jesus turns our focus onto our _____ to meet their needs & legit desires legitimately.

Conclusion: