

## Message Notes

### Why did God create sex anyway?

**Introduction** – “Worship 3.0 update”

Culturally, we need help from the noise!!

2 weeks on this issue:

This week, “What was God thinking when he created sexuality?”

Next week: “How are we to respond to current sexual issues in our culture?”

Three Presuppositions based on 1 Corinthians 6:12-20:

*Sexuality is incredibly personal because it lands deeply on relational and identity issues*

*We need the Gospel to inform us of sexuality*

*EVERYONE’S sexuality is broken and confused in this fallen world*

What does the Bible say about Sex?

*A Biblical Theology of Gospel Sexuality*

Genesis 1

Genesis 2

Genesis 3

Ezekiel 16

Matthew 19

1 Corinthians 7

Ephesians 5

Revelation 21

Conclusion: What’s the point of God’s creation of Sex? GOD!

Practical Matters – How are we to think about sex?

**Gospel Application** – “Are you letting the gospel inform your \_\_\_\_\_?”

*(insert everything here, including sexuality)*

## Scripture Passages

*(taken from the New International Version)*

### Genesis 1

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth... <sup>2</sup>So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

### Genesis 2

<sup>21</sup>So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man’s ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>The man said, “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called ‘woman,’ for she was taken out of man.” <sup>24</sup>That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. <sup>25</sup>Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

### Genesis 3

<sup>16b</sup>Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you... <sup>17b</sup>“Cursed is the ground because of you...

### Genesis 4 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup>Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, “I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD.”

### Ezekiel 16

### Matthew 19

<sup>4</sup>“Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ <sup>v</sup> <sup>5</sup>and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united 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.”

### 1 Corinthians 7

<sup>3</sup>The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. <sup>4</sup>The wife does not have authority over her own body but yields it to her husband. In the same way, the husband does not have authority over his own body but yields it to his wife. <sup>5</sup>Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual consent and for a time...

### Ephesians 5

<sup>31</sup>“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” <sup>32</sup>This is a profound mystery – but I am talking about Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup>However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

### Revelation 21

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup>I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

## For Further Study

### The Meaning of Marriage

Tim Keller

This book is written for all audiences. For those seeking out the Christian faith, to those who are ardently committed to Christ. Keller does a masterful job of giving the meaning of marriage from God’s view, and how that runs contrary to messages our times portray.

### The Marriage Builder

Dr. Larry Crabb

No book, outside the Bible, has been more influential for Carole and I as we have thought about how our relationship with Jesus is the key to understanding and living out our marriage and sexuality. Highly recommend!

### Intended for Pleasure: Sex Technique and Sexual Fulfillment in Marriage

Dr. Ed and Gaye Wheat

For married couples who are trying to better understand biblical sexuality written from a medical perspective. Highly recommend for engaged couples.

### Holy Sexuality and the Gospel: Sex, Desire, and Relationships Shaped by God’s Grand Story

Christopher Yuan

### www.harvestusa.org – Home of Harverst USA ministry

This is a fantastic resource for anyone who wants to understand biblical sexuality, how our culture has affected us both positively and negatively, and a safe place to find answers to questions and strategies for sexual sanity in a sex-crazed world.

### False Intimacy: Understanding the Struggle of Sexual Addiction

Harry Schaumburg

This is a great book, but be warned, it is a bit graphic. Schaumburg has years of experience in counseling people with many types of sexual addictions, and his answer always is to point them back the gospel message, to the false gods they are chasing and to a good biblical theology of sexuality. A great read, albeit somewhat graphic at points.

### Sexual Detox

Tim Challies

From Tim Challies: “My own Sexual Detox is a short, punchy book on pornography geared particularly to young men. I wrote it as a response to conversations with young men who, like so many young men today, had immersed themselves in online pornography. It is ideally suited for men, and young men, to read and discuss together.”

### Rid of My Disgrace: Hope and Healing for Victims of Sexual Assault

Lindsey and Justin Holcomb

An excellent resource for those dealing with the after effects of sexual assault and for those who are trying to minister to them

### Sexual Sanity! Breaking Free from Uncontrolled Habits

Earl Wilson

An older book, but a good one! Wilson’s straightforward approach was super helpful to me (Steve) as a new follower of Jesus Christ.

### Every Man’s Battle: Winning the War on Sexual Temptation One Victory at a Time

Stephen Arterburn and Fred Stoeker

Often used as the #1 resource by counselors on helping folks who feel trapped in Sexual Temptation.

### When Good Men are Tempted

Bill Perkins

Used to be required reading here at Hope when it came out in the mid 90’s. Not super deep, but very practical advice on how to have a biblical framework in the midst of a sex crazed world.

### Undeified

Harry Schaumburg

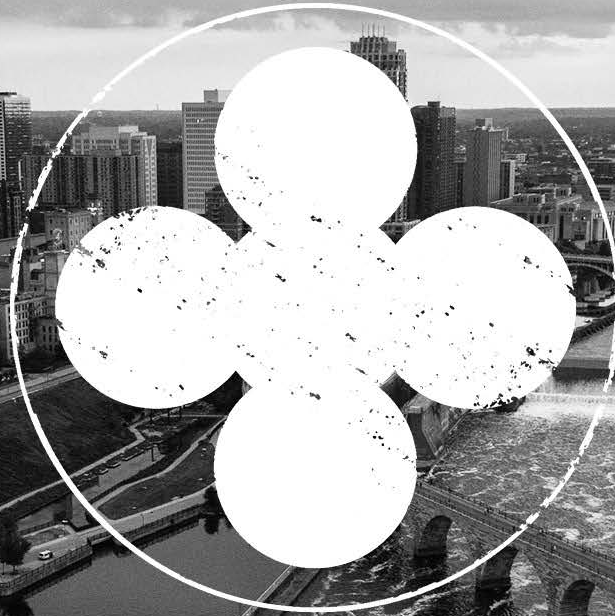
According to Tim Challies: “Schaumburg’s particular strength and ministry is in recovery from sexual sin. This book is ideal for hurting spouses who are attempting to recover together. He deals well with the feeling of defilement that can come to those who have fallen into sexual sin, or to those who have been the unwilling victims of sexual sin. In the opening pages Schaumburg says, “To be spiritually mature, you must be sexually mature; to be sexually mature, you must be spiritually mature.” This book seeks to achieve both of those goals, to help Christians grow up both inspiritual maturity and in their understanding of God’s great gift of sex. It does it well.”





# Worship 3.0 Update

HCC —DT  
Worship Times:  
8:45am and 10:30am



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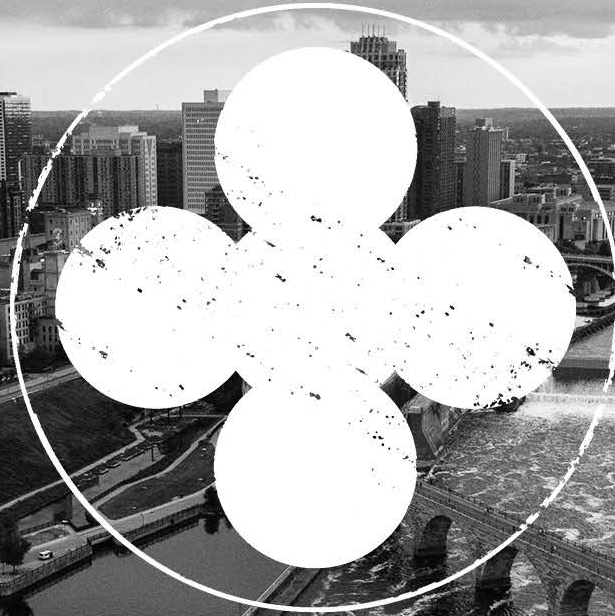
Start on Time!



# Worship 3.0 Update

HCC —DT  
Worship Times:  
8:45am and 10:30am

Start on Time!



Worship will  
shorten from about  
85 minutes to 75-  
80 minutes

# Worship 3.0 Update

**HEY!  
I HAVE A  
QUESTION!**

Summer Sermon Series

This week's question:

*“What was God thinking when he created sex?”*

*Focus Passage: Genesis 2:24*



“We were taught that sex is a dirty, filthy thing, and you should save it for the person you marry!”

~ Tony Campolo



# A Culture where "Sex is Everything"

"There still remains four irreducible objections to religious faith:

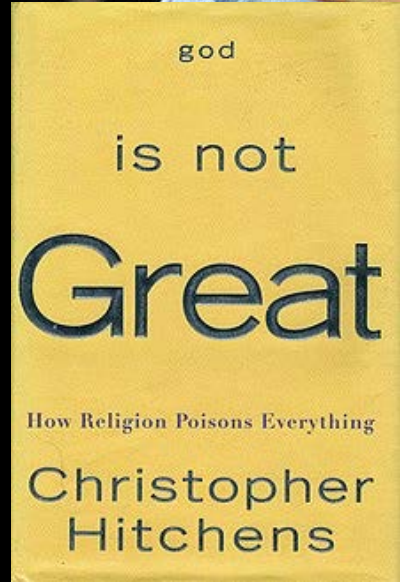
that it wholly misrepresents the origins of man and the cosmos,

that because of this original error it manages to combine the maximum of servility [*the desire to please others or God in a way that has little respect for self*] with the maximum of solipsism [*the idea that I actually matter in the universe*],

that it is both the result and the cause of dangerous sexual repression,

and that it is ultimately grounded on wish-thinking."

~ Peter Hitchens, *God is Not Great: How Religion Poisons Everything*, page 4a



GOSPEL

SEXUALITY

## 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

<sup>12</sup>“I have the right to do anything,” you say – but not everything is beneficial. “I have the right to do anything” – but I will not be mastered by anything. <sup>13</sup>You say, “Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both.”

## 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, “The two will become one flesh.” <sup>17</sup>But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

## 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. <sup>14</sup>By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. <sup>15</sup>Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself?

## 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

<sup>18</sup>Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against their own body.

## 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

<sup>19</sup>Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; <sup>20</sup>you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.



D. S. Bailey states:

Verse 16 “displays a psychological insight into human sexuality which is altogether exceptional by first-century standards ... he insists that it is an act which, by reason of its very nature, engages and expresses the whole personality in such a way as to constitute an unique mode of self-disclosure and self-commitment.”

~ Brendan Byrne, quoted by F. F. Bruce, *1 and 2 Corinthians*, page 64

# Three Presuppositions regarding Gospel Sexuality

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WAS WHAT  
GOD



THINKING  
WHEN HE  
CREATED  
SEX?



# A Biblical Theology of Sex



# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Genesis 1

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Genesis 1

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

<sup>27</sup>So God created mankind in his own image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Genesis 2

<sup>18</sup>The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him...”

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Genesis 2

<sup>21</sup>So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." <sup>24</sup>That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. <sup>25</sup>Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Genesis 3

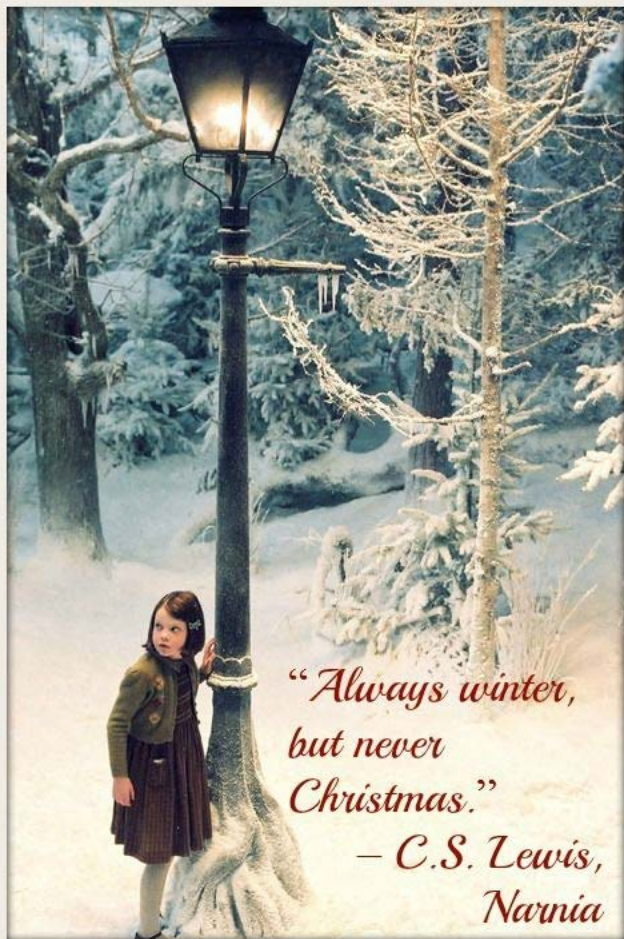
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# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Genesis 3

<sup>16b</sup>“Your desire will be for your husband,  
and he will rule over you.”

<sup>17b</sup>“Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. <sup>18</sup>It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. <sup>19</sup>By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”



*“Always winter,  
but never  
Christmas.”*

*– C.S. Lewis,  
Narnia*

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Genesis 4 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup>Now Adam knew Eve his wife,  
and she conceived and bore Cain,  
saying, “I have gotten a man  
with the help of the LORD.”



# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Ezekiel 16

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>“Son of man, confront Jerusalem with her detestable practices <sup>3</sup>and say, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says to Jerusalem: Your ancestry and birth were in the land of the Canaanites; your father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite. <sup>4</sup>On the day you were born your cord was not cut, nor were you washed with water to make you clean, nor were you rubbed with salt or wrapped in cloths. <sup>5</sup>No one looked on you with pity or had compassion enough to do any of these things for you. Rather, you were thrown out into the open field, for on the day you were born you were despised.

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Ezekiel 16

<sup>6</sup>“ Then I passed by and saw you kicking about in your blood, and as you lay there in your blood I said to you, “Live!” <sup>7</sup>I made you grow like a plant of the field. You grew and developed and entered puberty. Your breasts had formed and your hair had grown, yet you were stark naked.

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Ezekiel 16

<sup>8</sup>“ ‘Later I passed by, and when I looked at you and saw that you were old enough for love, I spread the corner of my garment over you and covered your naked body. I gave you my solemn oath and entered into a covenant with you, declares the Sovereign LORD, and you became mine.

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Ezekiel 16

<sup>9</sup>“ ‘I bathed you with water and washed the blood from you and put ointments on you. <sup>10</sup>I clothed you with an embroidered dress and put sandals of fine leather on you. I dressed you in fine linen and covered you with costly garments. <sup>11</sup>I adorned you with jewelry: I put bracelets on your arms and a necklace around your neck, <sup>12</sup>and I put a ring on your nose, earrings on your ears and a beautiful crown on your head.

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Ezekiel 16

<sup>13</sup>So you were adorned with gold and silver; your clothes were of fine linen and costly fabric and embroidered cloth. Your food was honey, olive oil and the finest flour. You became very beautiful and rose to be a queen. <sup>14</sup>And your fame spread among the nations on account of your beauty, because the splendor I had given you made your beauty perfect, declares the Sovereign LORD.

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Ezekiel 16

<sup>15</sup>“ ‘But you trusted in your beauty and used your fame to become a prostitute. You lavished your favors on anyone who passed by and your beauty became his. <sup>16</sup>You took some of your garments to make gaudy high places, where you carried on your prostitution. You went to him, and he possessed your beauty. <sup>17</sup>You also took the fine jewelry I gave you, the jewelry made of my gold and silver, and you made for yourself male idols and engaged in prostitution with them.

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Ezekiel 16

<sup>18</sup>And you took your embroidered clothes to put on them, and you offered my oil and incense before them. <sup>19</sup>Also the food I provided for you – the flour, olive oil and honey I gave you to eat – you offered as fragrant incense before them. That is what happened, declares the Sovereign LORD.

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Matthew 19

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus had finished saying these things, he left Galilee and went into the region of Judea to the other side of the Jordan.

<sup>2</sup>Large crowds followed him, and he healed them there.

<sup>3</sup>Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?”



# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Matthew 19

<sup>4</sup>“Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ <sup>5</sup>and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united 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.”

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Matthew 19

<sup>7</sup>“Why then,” they asked, “did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?”

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

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<sup>7</sup>“Why then,” they asked, “did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?”

<sup>8</sup>Jesus replied, “Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. <sup>9</sup>I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery.”

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

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<sup>10</sup>The disciples said to him, “If this is the situation between a husband and wife, it is better not to marry.”

<sup>11</sup>Jesus replied, “Not everyone can accept this word, but only those to whom it has been given. <sup>12</sup>For there are eunuchs who were born that way, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by others — and there are those who choose to live like eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. The one who can accept this should accept it.”

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## 1 Corinthians 7

<sup>3</sup>The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. <sup>4</sup>The wife does not have authority over her own body but yields it to her husband. In the same way, the husband does not have authority over his own body but yields it to his wife. <sup>5</sup>Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual consent and for a time...

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Ephesians 5

<sup>25</sup>Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her <sup>26</sup>to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, <sup>27</sup>and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. <sup>28</sup>In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup>After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church — <sup>30</sup>for we are members of his body.

# A Biblical Theology of Sex

## Ephesians 5

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<sup>33</sup>However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.



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## Revelation 21

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup>I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

# Gospel Sexuality

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God created sex

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God created sex  
to be received as a gift

# Gospel Sexuality

God created sex  
to be received as a gift  
and experienced at his direction

# Gospel Sexuality

God created sex  
to be received as a gift  
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**AS AN ILLUSTRATION OF HIS  
RELATIONSHIP WITH US**

# Practical Matters:

*How are we to think about sex?*





Shannon Ethridge

Best-Selling Author of the Every Woman's Battle Series

Foreword by Gary Thomas

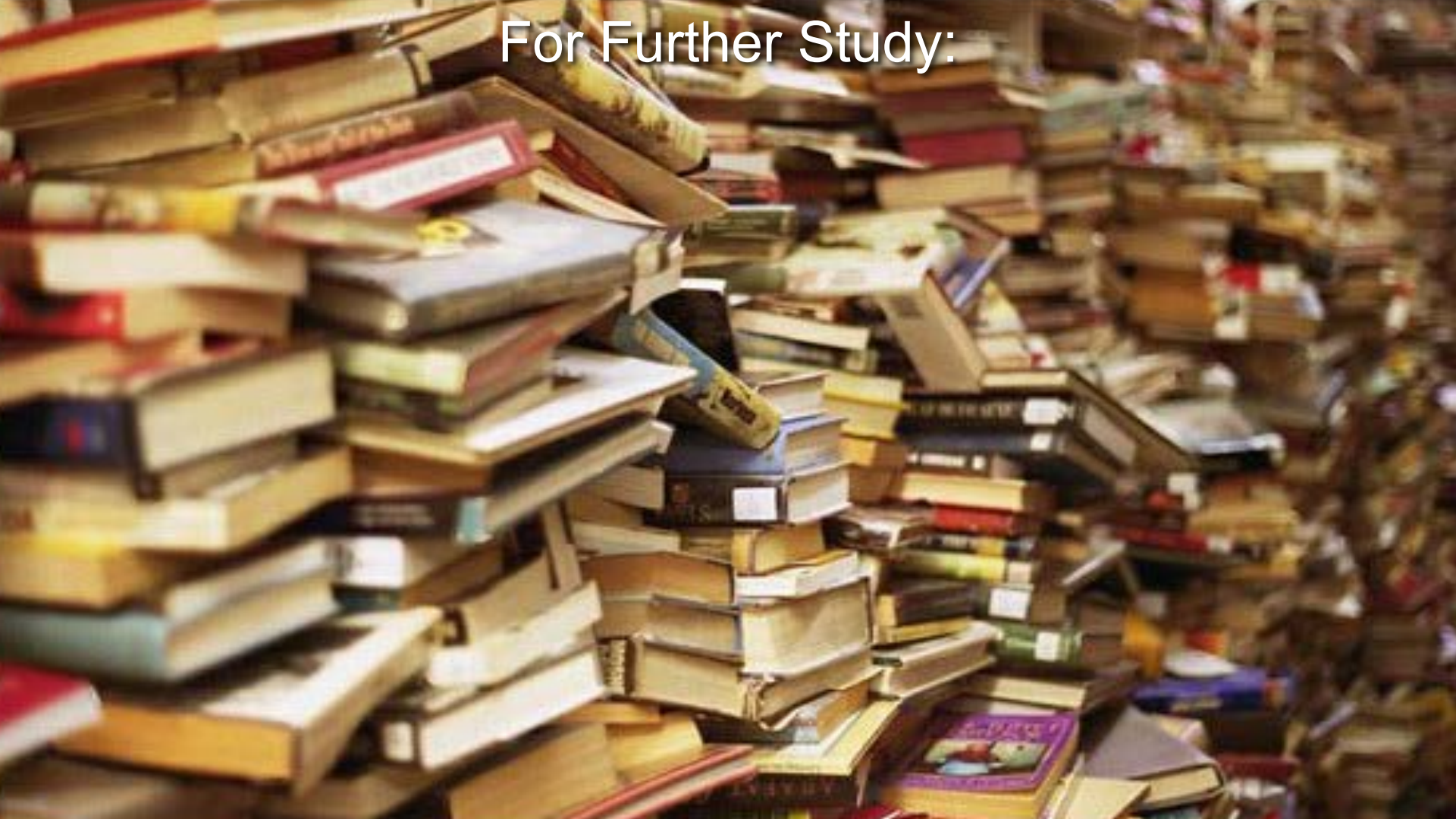
40  
INSIGHTFUL  
ANSWERS TO YOUR  
MOST INTIMATE  
QUESTIONS



THE  
PASSION  
PRINCIPLES

Celebrating Sexual Freedom in Marriage

For Further Study:

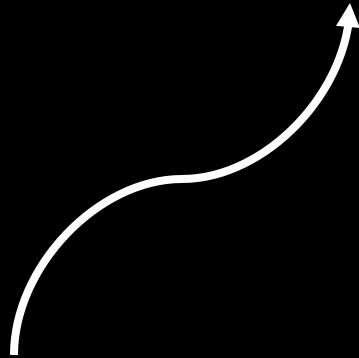


# Gospel Application

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*“Are you letting the gospel inform your*

*\_\_\_\_\_?”*



*(insert everything here, including sexuality)*