

# Message Notes

What is the point of sex anyways?

# Scripture Passages

**Introduction** – The purpose of an introduction is to...

## Sermon Series GOSPEL SEXUALITY

**Last week:** The Brokenness and Confusion of our (Sexual) World

### Three Takeaways:

1. EVERYONE'S sexuality is broken and confused in this fallen world.
2. We need the Gospel to inform us about sexuality.
3. Sexuality is so incredibly personal because it lands deeply on relational and identity issues.

**This week:** What is the point of sex anyways?

**God created sex to be received as a gift and experienced at his direction for ever-increasing intimacy and benefit.**

### #1 - God created sex

Genesis 2:23-25, Proverbs 5:18-19

Mistaken Understanding #1: Sex is everything

### #2 - To be received as a gift

Song of Solomon 4:9-10, James 1:16-17, 1 Corinthians 7:1-6

Mistaken Understanding #2: Sex is nothing

### #3 - And experienced at his direction

Mistaken Understanding #3: If I have an appetite for sex, I must feed it.

Song of Solomon 4:12, Hebrews 13:4

Mistaken Understanding #4: Sex is a topic only for married couples

### #4 - For ever-increasing intimacy and benefit.

Legit Friends with Benefits

### Gospel Application

What is your response to the point of sex?

1 Corinthians 6:13

13 "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food" – but God will destroy them both. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

Genesis 2:23-25

23 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."

24 That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

25 Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

Proverbs 5:18-19

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.

Song of Solomon 4:9-10

9 You have stolen my heart, my sister, my bride; you have stolen my heart with one glance of your eyes, with one jewel of your necklace.

10 How delightful is your love, my sister, my bride! How much more pleasing is your love than wine, and the fragrance of your perfume more than any spice!

James 1:16-17

16 Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. 17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Song of Solomon 4:12

12 You are a garden locked up, my sister, my bride; you are a spring enclosed, a sealed fountain.

Hebrews 13:4

4 Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

Ephesians 5:25-28

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. 28 In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies.

Genesis 4:1

4 Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord."

[insert ATTENTION-grabbing introduction]

**GOSPEL  
SEXUALITY**

# Three Big Take Aways:

1. EVERYONE'S sexuality is broken and confused in this fallen world
1. We need the Gospel to inform us about sexuality
1. Sexuality is so incredibly personal because it lands deeply on relational and identity issues

# What is the purpose of our bodies?

## 1 Corinthians 6:13

<sup>13</sup>“Food for the stomach and the stomach for food” — but God will destroy them both. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

# Gospel Sexuality Messages:

The Brokenness and Confusion of our (Sexual) World

What's the point of sex anyway? (6/2)

Gospel Sexuality in a non-Gospel World (6/9)

Men and Women: Enjoying the Difference (6/16)

Sex and Singleness (6/23)

Gospel Sexuality and Same-Sex Attraction (6/30)

Lust: Dealing with the Dragon Within us (7/7)

Redemption: Picking up the Pieces of Broken Sexuality  
(7/14)

# What's the point of sex anyway?

God created sex  
to be received as a gift  
and experienced at his direction  
for ever-increasing intimacy and benefit.

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# Mistaken Understandings of Sex

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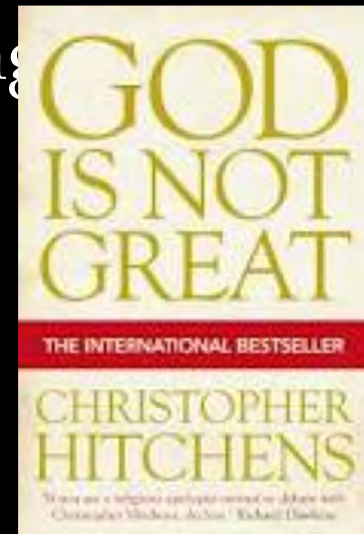
## 1. Sex is Everything

# A Culture where “Sex is Everything”

Sexual addiction or hypersexuality is defined as a dysfunctional preoccupation with sexual fantasy, often in combination with the obsessive pursuit of casual or non-intimate sex; pornography; compulsive masturbation; romantic intensity and objectified partner sex for a period of at least six months.

# 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 with the maximum of solipsism, that it is both the result and the cause of dangerous sexual repression, and that it is ultimately grounded on wish-thinking.”



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# #2 - To be received as a gift

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have stolen my heart with one glance of your  
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wine, and the fragrance of your perfume more than  
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# #2 - To be received as a gift

James 1:16-17

16 Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters.

17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

# Mistaken Understandings of Sex

1. Sex is Everything

2. Sex is Nothing

# A (Church) Culture where Sex is Nothing

“Intercourse performed licitly (i.e. permissibly) is an occasion of sin, unless done purely to beget children.”

~Clement of Alexandria (AD 150-215)

# A (Church) Culture where Sex is Nothing

Origen (AD 185 -254) – Allegorized Song of Solomon

Gregory of Nyssa (AD 335-394) – Adam and Eve created without sexual desire

Jerome (AD 347-420) – Punished himself physically when tempted

Augustine (AD 354-430) – Commended married couples for not engaging in sex

Thomas Aquinas (AD 1225-1274) – Sex permissible only for purposes of procreation

# #2 - To be received as a gift

1 Corinthians 7:1-3

1 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

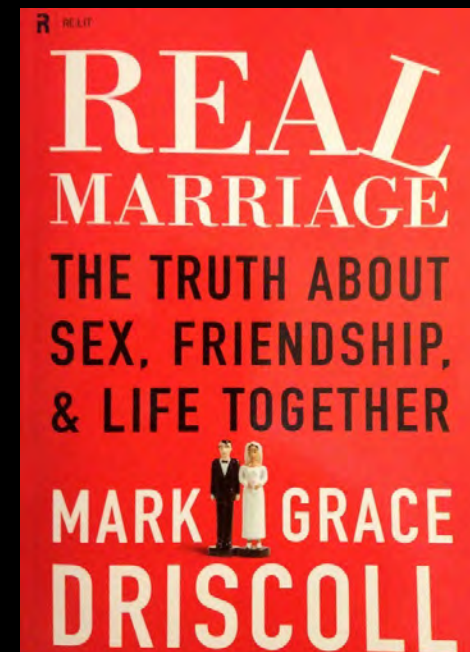
each woman her own husband. 3 The husband should

give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband.

# A Culture where “Sex is Nothing”

Perhaps the most extreme examples I (Mark) have encountered were multiple young couples from strict religious upbringings at a conference in Minnesota. In conversations throughout the course of the day, I repeatedly had Christian couples, who had been married a year or more, asking when I thought they should consummate their relationship and have sex for the first time...Most wrongly thought that sex was for procreation alone and not pleasure.

~Mark and Grace Driscoll





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# Mistaken Understandings of Sex

1. Sex is Everything

2. Sex is Nothing

3. If I have an appetite for sex,  
I must feed it.

# #3 – And experienced at his direction

Song of Solomon 4:12

12 You are a garden locked up, my sister, my  
bride; you are a spring enclosed, a sealed fountain.

# #3 – And experienced at his direction

'Cause if you liked it, then you should  
have put a ring on it.

-Beyonce

# Mistaken Understandings of Sex

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# #3 – And experienced at his direction

Hebrews 13:4

...let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

# #3 – And experienced at his direction

Ephesians 5:25-28

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. 28 In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies.

# #3 – And experienced at his direction

Question 1: Is it lawful?

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Question 2: Is it helpful?



# #3 – And experienced at his direction

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Question 2: Is it helpful?

Question 3: Is it enslaving?

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# Mistaken Understandings of Sex

**5. Friends with benefits rarely involves friends or benefits**

# For ever-increasing intimacy and benefit

4 Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord."

# For ever-increasing intimacy and benefit

“Here we are, with all our high notions of ourselves as intellectual and spiritual beings and the most profound of knowledge for us is a plain business of skin on skin.

When two members of this godlike, cerebral species approach the heights of communion between themselves, what do they do? Think? Speculate? Meditate? No, they take off their clothes.”

~Thomas Howard, Hallowed Be This House (115-16)

# For ever-increasing intimacy and benefit

## Legit friends with benefits

1. For pleasure



# For ever-increasing intimacy and benefit

## Legit friends with benefits

1. For pleasure
2. For creating children

# For ever-increasing intimacy and benefit

## Legit friends with benefits

1. For pleasure
2. For creating children
3. For oneness

# For ever-increasing intimacy and benefit

## Legit friends with benefits

1. For pleasure
2. For creating children
3. For oneness
4. For knowledge

# For ever-increasing intimacy and benefit

## Legit friends with benefits

1. For pleasure
2. For creating children
3. For oneness
4. For knowledge
5. For protection

# For ever-increasing intimacy and benefit

## Legit friends with benefits

1. For pleasure
2. For creating children
3. For oneness
4. For knowledge
5. For protection
6. For comfort

# Responding to God's creation of sex

God created sex  
to be received as a gift  
and experienced at his direction  
for ever-increasing intimacy and benefit.