



Sexuality: Made in the Image of God

Adapted from “Christians and Sexuality” series by Dr. George O. Wood.

Perhaps you have never thought of sexuality in terms of there being a theology of sexuality. Yet, if you look at what theology really is, it is the study of God. All of the practical applications of human behavior grow out of what we feel to be our doctrine of God.

Too often in Christian circles we are concerned more with the pragmatic and the practical without first considering what God has in mind. Much of the misuse of sexuality among Christians simply results in never knowing or misunderstanding what it is that God was thinking when he created us male and female. God has designed sexuality to teach us something about himself. We are created in the image of God and we can learn something about God by looking at our own sexuality.

“Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. May not copy or download more than 500 consecutive verses of the ESV Bible or more than one half of any book of the ESV Bible.”

COURAGE

C1: What do you think God has in mind concerning sexuality?

C2: Read and answer the following.

Genesis 1:27 (ESV) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Genesis 5:1 (ESV) This is the book of the generations of Adam. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God.

Genesis 9:6 (ESV) Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.

- What comes to your mind when you read the words “made in the likeness of God”?
- What does being “made in the likeness of God” and “created in God’s image” mean to you?
- Have you ever thought about your sexuality as being made in the image of God?

C3: If God created you in His image, then He created you sexually for a reason. What do you think God had in mind concerning sexuality?

C4: Do you feel you have a responsibility to talk about sexuality to your children? Why or why not?

STRENGTH

S1: In the next thirty days, write out your theology on sexuality. How does your theology relate to God's Word?

S2: Read and answer the following.

Genesis 1:27 (ESV)

Genesis 5:1 (ESV)

Genesis 9:6 (ESV)

- What does it mean to be made in the image of God?
- How do these verses impact your view of sexuality and being made in the image of God?
- God is spirit, and if we are made in the image of God, why are we not spirit? Describe what it means when we speak of the fact that we have hands, eyes, ears, and a mouth. How that can relate to being made in His image (God feels, sees, hears, and speaks.)?
- Having been formed in the image of God, all men are walking theological textbooks. What do you say to the world based upon that statement?

S3: We are made in the image of God and sexual intimacy is the deepest knowledge of another person. In the next thirty days, meet with three men and discuss how you can teach young men the importance of God's view of sexuality verses the world's view?

ENDURANCE

E1: What are your thoughts about the need for the development of a personal theology of sex before you can talk about sexuality and manhood?

E2: Read and answer the following.

Genesis 1:27 (ESV)

Genesis 5:1 (ESV)

Genesis 9:6 (ESV)

- If males are made in the image of God and females are made in the image of God and together they equal man in the image of God, then there must be something about our sexuality that says something about the very character of God Himself. Describe the union of male and female in “man made in the image of God” and how that relates to the Holy Trinity? Keep in mind that there is a mystery that we will not fully understand until we meet Him face-to-face.
- God has a specific purpose for sexuality in marriage, describe ways that you can disciple other men on concerning being made in the image of God sexually?
- Sexual union with a woman brings the deepest knowledge of another person. How can your union with God, being made in His image, bring you to the deepest knowledge of Him?

E3: In the next thirty days, meet with three men to discuss this lesson. What did you learn?