



The Place of Sex in our Relationships

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

God designed marriage to be a creating experience where two people come together. Marriage is more than simply companionship or affirmation. It has an altruistic aspect of others become involved. Something comes out of the relationship that could not have happened with one person alone. Sexuality in marriage models the character of God. The place of sexuality in our relationship goes beyond the physical. God designed sexual relationships within marriage to be the capstone of a companion, affirming, and altruistic relationship.

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COURAGE

C1: What do you hope to gain from the relationships in your life? Describe a time when you have felt lonely despite being in a marriage, a group of people, or in a church. Do you feel lonely today? Why?

C2: On a scale of 1-4, with 1 being very well and 4 being not very well, rate yourself on the following three areas of a relationship.

- Companionship
- Affirmation
- Altruism (Being devoted to people and interests outside yourself)
- Write out a plan to improve in each of these areas.

C3: When it comes to sexuality, what are some topics men shy away from discussing? Why?

C4: What does intimacy mean to you?

STRENGTH

S1: Read and answer the following.

Genesis 2:18 (ESV)

- What do you learn from this scripture about relationships?
- What is the value of having a godly relationship with other men?
- Describe the difference between isolation and insulation as it pertains to relationships.

S2: Do a biblical search on the following topics.

- a. Adultery
 - b. Fornication
 - c. Casual sex
 - d. Homosexuality
- What did you glean from your search on these topics?
 - Where do you, as a Christian man, find the strength to be open and honest with your views, struggles, and victories when it comes to the place of sex in your relationships?



S3: Teenagers today are looking for answers to two critical questions of self-worth: are you beautiful and are you smart. They are using sex in an attempt to find the answers. How would you convey that true companionship and self-worth can be found without sex?

ENDURANCE

E1: Answer the following.

- Why do you feel that the discussion of topics relating to sex and relationships are so hard for men to talk about?
- If we, as men, cannot discuss topics like fornication, casual sex, commitment, adultery, and homosexuality in a Christian man's life, where will the young men get their beliefs about sex? How can you begin to change where they are learning about the place of sex in their relationships?

E2: Companionship not only involves a shared presence but also shared communication.

- How do you create an atmosphere where topics of a sexual nature can be discussed from a biblical view?
- What do you hope to get out of a relationship with other men when discussing topics of sexuality and Christianity? Be specific

E3: Take thirty days and develop a biblical view of marriage and sex.