



INTRODUCTION

It seems there are just some topics people tend to get hung up on when it comes to living a Christian life. Over the next four weeks, we'll explore some of these common hang-ups and provide biblical insight into your questions on sex, suffering, science and other faiths. Christians often avoid the topic of sex because it makes people uncomfortable, but just as Jesus confronted the uncomfortable, we must do the same to understand the profound mystery.

DISCUSSION

1. So many voices in our culture say, "It's just sex." Read aloud **1 Corinthians 6:12-20** and **1 Thessalonians 4:3-8**. Why is it not "just sex"? How are these selections connected to this falsehood? Why is such disrespect to our bodies a sin?
2. "Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one." [**1 Corinthians 6:18**] Because sex is not just sex, much more is involved when someone is controlled by it. How does sexual sin impact lives beyond the physical act? If you are comfortable, share if you have been impacted personally.
3. Sex is *not* the ultimate sign of love. "...Even as Christ also loved you, and gave himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God..." [**Ephesians 5:2** ASV] If love is sacrifice, what must you be willing to sacrifice sexually to show love to a spouse and love to God?
4. Read **Ephesians 5:32-33**. How is the connection between Christ and the church an illustration of the love of a husband for his wife? What are the duties of the husband and wife to each other?

DO SOMETHING

1. Pray for those trapped by the lies of sex in our culture today. Ask for clarity so they can see the truth offered in Scripture and the beauty intended by our Creator. Ask for healing for those who have been hurt by others.
2. Using one of the resources below, spend some time this summer in your group discussing one of these sexual issues.
3. Everyone has someone in their circle who struggles in this area of their lives. If possible, take a step in helping a friend, coworker or family member overcome obstacles in this area, possibly using one of the resources listed below.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Sexual addiction is real and one cannot address it alone. If you or someone you love is struggling with sexual sin, help is available. xxxchurch.com is an online resource, or contact our Care ministry by visiting prairielakeschurch.org/care or email care@prairielakeschurch.org.

RightNow Media

1. "What Is the Relationship Between God And Sexuality?" Joshua Harris
2. "The Sex Talk" Brett Ullman
Guidance for adults and teens on connecting Biblical teaching to our modern sexualized culture.
3. "Sex Crazy Culture" Ed Young
Our culture is laden with issues related to sex and sexuality. How do we move away from the secular vision of sex and back to God's?