



BY DESIGN

GOD'S INTENT FOR SEXUALITY

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family, and/or with a group.

It's OK to talk about sex in the church because God talks about sex a lot in the Bible. This series unapologetically examines the topic of sexuality through the lens of the Bible.

- 1** Churches typically shy away from addressing the topic of sexuality. Why is that?
- 2** **SEX IS from God.** We were created by God as specifically sexual beings, and God considered this to be “good.” **Read Genesis 1:26-27.** God created mankind as sexual beings—male and female. How do our different genders uniquely reflect the image of God?
- 3** Our sexuality is a gift from God to be stewarded to the glory of God. And God makes it clear early on what part of that stewardship entails. **Read Genesis 2:22-24.** God gave sex as a gift to a husband and wife. Why is the context of pledged fidelity important to truly appreciate the gift?
- 4** By design the act of sex connects more than bodies; it bonds souls. So, sex outside of God's design has great potential to wound and damage. Why is this true? What have been some of the familial and societal consequences of ignoring God's design for sexuality?
- 5** **SO DON'T cheapen it.** Our culture sees no problem with giving your body to someone you don't intend to give your heart and your soul to. But we were not designed to be able to experience intimacy apart from fidelity. **Read 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5.** How does our culture make too small a deal of sex? How does our culture make too big a deal of sex?
- 6** **SEX IS not God.** The problem with ignoring God's design is that sex becomes less important because it becomes too important. Rick said that having sex is not a basic human entitlement or essential for human fulfillment. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- 7** **SO DON'T worship it.** We were not meant to worship sex, but to worship God. And that includes not just our souls, but our bodies. **Read Romans 12:1 and 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.** What is the call of discipleship on our bodies?
- 8** **LOVE IS not God.** The Bible never justifies a relationship simply on the basis of love. Why is it dangerous to let our loves or desires determine our sexual ethics?
- 9** **BUT God is love!** Sin has disordered all of us in profound ways. Every one of us has failed to steward our sexuality perfectly. But God loves us where we are, not where we ought to be. That is why Jesus went to the cross. **Read Hebrews 7:24-25.** How is the gospel good news for sexually broken people?