



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** **Read Matthew 19:4-6.** When confronted with a controversial issue, Jesus took his questioners back to Genesis 1 & 2. What does this tell us about Jesus' view of scripture? What can we learn from the living Word about the place the written Word should have in our lives?
- 2** **GOD defines marriage.** **Read Genesis 2:22-24.** God designed marriage as a heterosexual, monogamous, and permanent union. What does this design tell us about the purpose of marriage? What does it tell us about God?
- 3** **MARRIAGE depicts God.** What we say about marriage matters because of what marriage was designed to say about God. God cares that his design is honored. **Read Hebrews 13:4.** What are some of the ways that marriage comes under attack in our culture?
- 4** **JESUS defends marriage.** When it came to marriage and sex, Jesus was far less tolerant than his contemporaries. **Read Matthew 19:7-12.** Jesus gave his questioners two options: stay married, or stay single and celibate. Why were his disciples so shocked by his answer?
- 5** **Read Mark 8:34.** Culture endorses many forms of sexual expression outside of God's design. One way many disciples are called to carry their cross is by denying their sexual urges. For whom will this be particularly hard? Jesus made the creative design the standard for the stewarding of sexuality. How can we as fellow believers help one another steward our sexuality to God's glory?
- 6** Many would contend that the Bible does not carry the same authority in our culture and even in the church that it used to carry. Do you agree or not, and why?
- 7** **MARRIAGE declares Jesus.** One reason God cares about marriage is because it's about more than marriage. **Read Ephesians 5:31-32.** The Bible starts and ends with a marriage. How should our marriages point to Christ?