

The Bible and Physical Intimacy

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I. We need not be ashamed about sex in marriage.

A. We need not be silent about sex, but should be shouting what the Bible says about it.

II. The first two chapters of Genesis have much to say about sex.

A. The first creation account reveals Elohim the almighty God who created out of nothing. (Genesis 2:3-4)

1. Creation climaxes with the creation of man.
2. Beginning with Genesis 2:4 the focus changes to Jehovah the covenant keeping God.
3. This change marks a change of purpose, highlighting marriage where man and women are drawn into covenant forever.

B. The first mention of the creation underscores the polarity of the sexes. (Genesis 1:27)

1. We need to remember that our sex is a gift from God.
2. Our culture is maculating women and feminizing men.
3. Cultivate the most distinctive thing about you, your sexual gift from God.
4. If we lose this we become perverts.
5. God saw that his creation was good.
6. God also saw something not good; man should not live alone.

C. When God says something is not good we need to pay attention.

1. The aloneness of man disturbs God.
2. The environment was perfect.
3. Man had unlimited creative potential.
4. Man has unbroken fellowship with God.
5. In spite of this God saw that it was not good for man to live alone.
6. The creation of woman speaks against homosexuality because only woman could fill this void in the heart of man.
7. Woman became man's helper, tailor-made to his specifications.

8. Men don't marry until you realize you need the woman you desire.

9. Adam recognized that Eve was perfect for him and he marveled at her, saying, "Bone of my bone," which in the Hebrew means, "Where have you been all my life?"

10. Marriage is not finding the right person but being the right person, because you bring your baggage into the relationship.

III. Four principles for Christian marriage.

A. Marriage and family are of divine origin.

1. It takes three to form a Christian marriage.

a. The Lord.

b. A man.

c. A woman.

2. The dynamics of the vertical relationship affects the horizontal relationship.

a. The physical is not the most important aspect of marriage.

b. The spiritual forms the basis for the physical.

c. Sex life sags because we focus on the physical not the spiritual.

d. If we get out of fellowship with the Lord we get out of fellowship with our spouses.

e. This work in a reverse way too.

3. Family is the ideal context for sex education.

a. We should educate our kids regarding sex in our families.

b. The average couple is poorly prepared for this.

1) If you have kids a boy gets his idea of masculinity from dad.

2) Girls get their femininity from mom.

3) Homosexuality is at 7%, in California it's 222%.

a) We need to affirm the masculinity of boys (for example: sending them off to camp, not worrying about hurting themselves in football but cheering them on.)

4) If we cling to kids in a protective way we commit emotional incest.

a) Parents over relate to kind by stop loving each other.

b) Kids are most secure when they know they are number 2, when mom makes dad number 1 and dad makes mom number 1.

5) Kids also fight, learning how to protect each other.

a) The most well adjusted kids come from large families.

d. The Lord's relationship with both husband and wife is the most important ingredient in a good marriage. (Psalm 127:1)

1. Unless the Lord works in our lives we won't make it.

2. This gives God the glory.

B. Sex is a gift of God with purpose.

1. It was given to man and woman before the fall into sin.

2. The curse after the fall was painful childbearing for the woman. (Genesis 3:16)

3. The woman would also have continued sexual passion for her husband but he would rule over her.

4. The fall did not abate the sexual drive.

C. The purpose of sex.

1. Propagation, preparing for parenthood. (Genesis 1:27-28; 9:1; Psalm 127)

a. Children are the God ordained outcome of marriage and this is why sex outside of marriage is forbidden. Sex requires responsibility.

b. Children are an assignment from God (Psalm 127:3a)

1) God gives us children to minister to us.

2) We need our children as much as they need us.

3) Children are rewards from God. (Psalm 127:3b)

4) Our culture says parents should have only 2 children, at most.

5) If God tells you 2 and no more then that is good.

6) If the world says only 2 you may miss the goodness of God.

2. To prevent fornication. (1 Corinthians 7:1-3)

a. Sex outside marriage is devastating.

- b. We reap what we sow, and cannot escape the consequences.
- c. Couples minister to each other through sex, fulfilling each other's desires.
- d. Abstinence should be practiced for spiritual involvement only.

3. To promote mutual love.

- a. We need to enjoy pleasure.
- b. Platonic dualism is not Christian ideology.
- c. Dualism leads to either promiscuity or to asceticism.
- d. Christianity teaches us to enjoy sex.

1) Sarah laughed when God promised her a son as she was beyond the stage of sexual arousal, as was Abraham also. (Genesis 18:12)

2) Yet nothing is too difficult for God; his resurrection power best in the cemetery.

3) Isaac fondled Rebekah. (Genesis 26:8)

4) Newlywed men are exempt from military service for one year so he can give his wife sexual pleasure. (Deuteronomy 24:5)

5) Men are to be ravaged by his wife's breasts. (Proverbs 5:18-19)

6) Song of Solomon also teaches us to enjoy sex.

7) We are to leave parents in order to cling to our spouses. (Genesis 2:24)

D. The subject of sexual intimacy with our spouses marks us in our ministries.

- 1. As society becomes more pagan loving Christian couples become more of a phenomenon.
- 2. If your marriage comes unglued you have nothing to offer the world.
- 3. If your marriage remains strong you have something significant to offer the world.