

# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

## *Does God Really Care About My Sexuality?*

### **God's Masterplan for Sex and Sexuality**

**Genesis 1:26-28 (KJV) 26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. 28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.**

- God is our Creator
- In Genesis 1 and 2, we see God create the world and everything in it
- We see God's vision for *distinctiveness or separation* of things
- Heaven is separated from earth, light from darkness, day from night, morning from evening, clouds from the seas, water from dry land
- On the sixth day of creation, God created mankind
- This creation was not only distinctive or separate from animals, there was a distinction between the two sexes: *male and female*
- The sexes were created in the *image of God*
- Their diversity would be complementary in being fruitful and multiplying and replenishing the earth
- At creation God lays the groundwork for establishing and upholding the value and importance of heterosexual marriage as the foundation of the family
- We can see God not only created the sexes, God created sex **Genesis 2:24 (KJV) 24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.**
- God also created the framework for sexual expression, the *marital union*, not be restrictive, but because He cares about us
- Same-sex, sexual expression, God strongly disapproves of **Leviticus 18:22 (NLT2) 22 "Do not practice homosexuality, having sex with another man as with a woman. It is a detestable sin.**
- The sexual union is more than a physical act of one's desires, it is giving of one's self to the one you're married to **1 Corinthians 7:4 (NLT2) 4 The wife gives authority over her body to her husband, and the husband gives authority over his body to his wife.**

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- Physically, our bodies belong to our spouses because God designed marriage so that, through the union of husband and wife, the two become one
- God promised to bless them if they followed God's plan for living
- Creation paints a clear picture of God's intent for the sexes and for sex

### **What Went Wrong?**

**Genesis 2:16-17 (KJV) 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.**

- God made a perfect world, and He gave His creation freedom to make their "own choices"
- God gave Adam *freedom within a framework*
- God told Adam he could eat of *every tree* in the garden, *except one*; do not to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil
- The freedom God give us is the opportunity and responsibility to maximize our calling under God's rule
- As we know in Genesis 3, the serpent came and tempted Eve, by casting doubt about God's clear instructions
- When Adam and Eve ate from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, it broke their relationship with God and brought forth sin, including *sexual sin* into the world
- That moment of disobedience opened the door to sin
- We live in a world where sex is impersonal as ordering a pizza, living together is common, same-sex relationships are being normalized, sex-trafficking is \$9.5 billion industry in the US alone, and 30% of data transferred on the internet is pornographic
- Freedom from God boundaries may feel liberating, but this freedom comes with a cost; the cost is *death*
- It's a death of God's:
  - Favor on our lives
  - Purpose for our lives
  - Intent for the family
  - Plans for our nation and the world

### **Why Do We Resist God's Sexual Boundaries?**

- *They feel God's way is too restrictive*
  - Sex can only take place within the confines of marriage, between one man and one woman
  - We should not have to limit our choices of who we can sleep with

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- *They don't believe God would withhold sex from them*
  - God loves me too much to withhold something *good* from me
  - We think that God would never keep sex from us
  - God *does* love us and when He created sex, He made it good, and He had a plan for it; *marriage*
  - God knew how *beautiful* it would be within the marriage context and also how *potentially dangerous* it can be outside of it
- *It's new day*
  - God's sexual boundaries are being rewritten
  - Some believe God's grace gives us freedom to express our sexuality any way we chose, and His grace covers us
  - Scholarly theologians are re-interpreting and re-imagining what the scriptures say about sexual relations outside of marriage and same-sex relationships
  - It's dangerous to twist the scripture to support a lifestyle or behavior
  - Although it seems God's sexual boundaries have been removed, they *still* exist

### ***How Can We Help?***

- *Speak with love, grace, and truth; in that order*
  - Show *love* by being genuinely concerned about their well-being
  - Exhibit *grace* by being kind and merciful, demonstrate God's grace
  - Ask God to give you an opportunity introduce the *truth* of God's word that can set them free
- *Be a prayer warrior –*
  - Pray for those that are battling sexual desires, addictions, sexual identity issues and to allow the Holy Spirit to bring about conviction, healing and transformation
- *Be willing to walk with people in their sexual struggles*
  - People struggling with sexual issues need a friend, a believer to help them ***Galatians 6:1 (MSG) 1 Live creatively, friends. If someone falls into sin, forgivingly restore him, saving your critical comments for yourself. You might be needing forgiveness before the day's out.***
  - Let them know God forgives
  - In many cases, those dealing with sexual issues have never had anyone be *kind enough* to listen to what they have to say or what they're going through
- *Let single people be single*

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- Singleness is a *gift* from God, just like marriage is
- Single people should not be made to feel *incomplete, inferior* or something is “wrong” with them if they are not married
- Single people have a *unique opportunity* to serve God in ways married people can't **1 Corinthians 7:32-34 (NLT2) 32 I want you to be free from the concerns of this life. An unmarried man can spend his time doing the Lord's work and thinking how to please him. 33 But a married man has to think about his earthly responsibilities and how to please his wife. 34 His interests are divided. In the same way, a woman who is no longer married or has never been married can be devoted to the Lord and holy in body and in spirit. But a married woman has to think about her earthly responsibilities and how to please her husband.**
- If you're single, use this time in your life to serve God wholeheartedly
- *Help people follow God's plan for sexuality*
  - Following God's plan for their sexuality is for the benefit of their relationship *with Him*
  - Our sexual desires and expressions must be placed under God's control **1 Thessalonians 4:2-5 (KJV) 2 For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus. 3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: 4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; 5 Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God:**
  - The best way to help people follow God's plan for sexuality is model it