

Strengthening Your Marriage Seminar Sexual Unity

(Session # 6)

Sexuality in the marital relationship is certainly one of the most misunderstood areas for Christians. Our culture has influenced our perceptions to a very large degree, for we are a sex saturated society. Contrary to popular thought, the Bible does not address sexuality in a prudish manner (Gen. 38:8-10; Ex. 22:16, 19; Lev. 15:1-33, 18:6-23, 19:29, 20:10-21; Provo 5:15-19; Song of Solomon 1:1-2,12-14,2:6-7,4 ;1-5, 7:1-9, 8:1-4; Isa. 3:16-26; Jer.2:24; Ezek. 23:1-21; Matt. 15:19; Rom. 1:24-32; 1Cor. 6:18; 1Thess. 4:3; 1Pet. 4:3; Jude 7). Sex is a spiritual matter.

God's purpose for our sexuality, as in all things, is to glorify Himself (1 Cor. 10:31). Everything He created was very good (Gen. 1 :31). He created those who bore His image as male and female, for He is a God of relationship (Gen. 1:27; Matt. 3:16-17; Jhn. 17:5). Adam and Eve in the Garden were so God centered that they were totally unaware of their own nakedness (Gen. 2:25). In the Fall, they became self-conscious and self centered, as their relationship with God was broken (Gen. 3:7-13). All marital difficulties, including sexual ones, can be traced back to the Fall and to the evil one (Jhn. 8:44; 1100.5:19), for sex is a spiritual issue.

God's statement of a man and woman becoming one flesh (Gen. 2:24) is a key to understanding sexual unity. It is a covenant with a purpose (Mal. 2:14-16). God is true and faithful (Deut. 7:9; JOO. 14:6; Rev.1:5). In the Old Testament, Israel is likened to a harlot when they unfaithfully follow after false gods, (Jer. 3:8; Ezek. 23:37). A husband and wife are to be faithful to one another in marriage because He is faithful and we are to reflect His character and nature. Sexual intercourse and all that leads up to it are be a reflection of true love and the God who is love (1Cor. 13:4-7; 1Jhn. 4:8, 16).

Satan always takes the pure and good things of God (Heb. 13:4) and perverts them. The world says love equals sex but sexuality divorced from God's parameters leads to destruction (prov. 7:21-27; 1Cor. 6:18-20; Jas. 4:1-4). Any pleasure it provides will be carnal, temporary, and empty for the soul and spirit. Sexuality within the covenantal relationship with God will reflect His character and nature. His Lordship in this most important area of marriage requires mutual prayer and commitment. In Christ only are we free to enjoy the abundant life He has purposed for us (Jhn. 8:31-36, 10:10).