



SEX

[Genesis 1:1, 27, 2:25](#); [1 Corinthians 6:12-19](#); [Matthew 16:24](#); [Colossians 2:13-14](#)

SERMON SUMMARY....

We live in a 'sex-crazy' world. As we grow further and further away from God's design and purposes with sex, the impact is devastating and destructive. Pornography, violent sexual crimes, sex-trafficking and sexually transmitted disease are all sign-posts telling us something has gone horrifically wrong. How did we go from "now the man and his wife were both naked, but they felt no shame" in Genesis 2 to a culture plagued with shame, guilt, fear, addiction, brokenness and sexual violence? One word to answer this question... **autonomy!**

In our pursuit of pleasure, the prevailing thought is that we can do whatever we want... whenever we want... with whomever we want... and now we can even become whoever we want... just because we want to. Our desire to be self-sovereign over sexuality and sex has only served to lead us down a path that God sought to protect us from. What if the problem we face is not a sex-problem (external issue), but a heart issue, what shall we do? We discover an answer to *that* question in three key words: **worship, obedience and gospel** play an integral role in understanding and embracing God's purposes and plans with sex and sexuality.

Open Reflection...

As you consider this topic, reflect on how the culture has shaped you and your view towards sex and pleasure.

To what extent do you believe or trust that God wants what is best for you? In general, why do we think we know what's best for us while believing God does not have our best in mind?

LEARN.... BIBLE STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS...

1. Read [Genesis 2:25](#). What does this tell us about God's design and intent for sex? How do the preceding verses (specifically Genesis 2:22, 24) further describe God's intention for the marriage relationship? What happens when sex is taken outside of the marriage relationship? What are some of the consequences?
2. Read [1 Corinthians 6:19-20](#) – what does Paul have to say about our desire to be 'autonomous' and 'self-sovereign'? What does [Genesis 1:1, 27](#) suggest about our ability to be autonomous? If the existence of God, coupled with being made in His image, squashes self-autonomy, where does the desire to be 'autonomous' and 'self-sovereign' come from? If God has given us His Holy Spirit and has redeemed us at the cost of His Son, what would it look like for us to honor God with our bodies?
3. If we are to glorify God in ALL we do ([1 Corinthians 10:31](#)), how do we worship God with our bodies, specifically as it relates to our sexuality? How might this change through seasons of singleness, marriage, divorce, or widowhood? How do we stay on guard against the temptation to worship sex; which would be idolatry?
4. Read [1 Corinthians 6:12-19](#). What do these verses teach us about obedience to God's call on our life to 'flee sexual immorality'? Why does God put 'boundaries' or 'fences' around sex? In what ways do these boundaries extend to our sexuality, for instance, using our bodies or appearances to attract people of the opposite sex? How are these boundaries for our good and benefit?

5. Jesus makes clear that if we are going to follow Him, we must 'leave our way' or 'deny ourselves.' ([Matthew 16:24](#)) The gospel not only calls us to be obedient to Christ, but the gospel reminds us of what Christ has done to forgive us when we fall short in our sin. Read [Colossians 2:13-14](#) – How does the gospel, namely what Jesus accomplished on the cross motivate us towards honoring God as it relates to sex and sexuality? If God has given us His Holy Spirit and has redeemed us at the cost of His Son, what would it look like for us to honor God with our bodies?

Pray...

Read and pray over [Psalm 139:23-24](#), asking that God search your heart and reveal anything that offends Him.