

# Family Discipleship

## Conversation Guide



## Biblical Sexuality

Sex was God's idea. He created Adam and Eve as sexual beings, but His very good gift has been incredibly distorted by sin and Satan. So why did God create sex in the first place?

Watch the following video on the four biblical purposes for sex: 

*Discuss:* Of the four purposes given in the video, which ones would everyone agree with? Which would only Christians agree with?

One reason for God's good gift of sex is to create unity between a husband and wife. Genesis 1:24 says, "That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh." Sex is a bonding part of the covenant of marriage.

A **covenant** is a sacred agreement based on a promise. In the Old Testament, God established several covenants with His people, giving them the law and promising a Savior. For us, God's "new covenant" is the forgiveness of sins through Jesus and promise of eternal life with Him.

Marriage is a mirror of God's covenants with His people. Sexual desire is a reminder of God's desire for all people. The prophet Isaiah wrote this about Israel:

*"As a young man marries a young woman, so will your Builder marry you; as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you." (Isaiah 62:5)*

God's covenant with us comes from his unconditional, sacrificial love for us. In marriage, a man and woman promise themselves to each other in this same unconditional, sacrificial way.

Read [Ephesians 5:25-33](#). The relationship between husband and wife is a reflection of the relationship between Jesus and the Church. Both are built on unconditional, sacrificial love.

**Human sexuality only makes sense in light of God's covenant relationship with us. Sex within marriage and sex outside of marriage are two very different things:**

- Sex within marriage is a renewal of the marriage covenant, a symbol of the unconditional and selfless love that exists through the whole relationship. It is one of the profound ways of giving yourself completely to your spouse. It is nurturing and incredibly bonding. It strengthens the whole relationship, just as God designed.

*Links, videos, and quotes contained within this guide do not necessarily represent the teachings of Grace Ev. Lutheran Church and the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).*

- Sex outside of marriage is about taking for oneself, not giving. The covenant relationship is missing. The bonding nature of intimacy inevitably leads to brokenness and despair.

**Discuss:** Where do you see God's good design for sex being twisted in our culture? What effects have you seen of this in people you know or in yourself?

All the distortions of God's very good gift, including sex outside of marriage, homosexuality, pornography, sexual abuse, and trafficking are the effects of sin and Satan's twisting of the very good into the very bad. They are counterfeits of God's good gift and cannot provide lasting fulfillment, but only brokenness and shame.

God's rules around sexuality are not designed to take anything from us but to give us something so much more beautiful than the counterfeits.

Satan wants us to think that God takes all the fun out of life. He wants us to think our sins of thought and action are too great for the atoning blood of Jesus. He wants to keep us from knowing and trusting our Savior. But God's love is beyond all comprehension. Our salvation is assured, and the Holy Spirit empowers us to live within God's very good design.

**Discuss:** What is good and bad about sexual desire during the teen years?

How can we use conversations about sexuality to point people to ultimate fulfillment in Jesus?

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, thank you for all your good gifts to us, including the gift of sexuality. Help us to live within your good design for marriage. Help us to remember your desire for us and to praise you for your never-ending grace. In Jesus' name, amen.