

GOOD SEX

Week 2 – Distinguishing Male/Female Differences

If we believe the world's way says something about sex and God's way says something about sex, one of these ways must be right. Maybe the world's way is right, that says it's no big deal, everybody's doing it, go ahead, and go at it, no consequences. Enjoy. Or maybe God's way is right. God says it is good. As a matter of fact it's great when it's in the context of marriage.

Last week we talked about sexual lies from the world's way. I believe these are lies:

Sex is no big deal.

Sex is purely physical just like playing a round a golf. You just play the game and it's over, no big deal.

Or God is down on sex. That's a total lie. God created sex. It was his idea. It wasn't some guy named Bob in the Middle Ages who thought it up. It was God's design. He's not down on sex, He's up on life.

Everybody's doing it. We talked last week how that is a lie. Over half of high school students are not doing it. It's impossible to be pure. Another lie.

We looked at some lies and then we looked at some truths about the creator of sex, some truths about God.

God isn't into rules, He's into life. God's not down on pleasure, He's up on life. He says sex outside marriage tends to bring people down and hurt people and leave life-long memories.

God is more concerned about your heart than your actions. Once He has your heart, your actions tend to follow.

God offers wisdom, forgiveness and hope. God can totally wipe away our past and set us on a new course.

Then some things to consider:

Understand that your sexual decisions will leave life-long memories. God's given us this incredible brain that doesn't shut things out. You experience something and it's there.

Recognize the importance. We talked about establishing sexual boundaries.

Check out God's plan for sex. Maybe you do believe that the world's way is right. Would you care enough about your life to join us for five weeks and maybe see a little bit about God's way? One of them has got to be right – either God's way or the world's way. The decision is yours.

One of the things I want to do is I want to lift some of the confusion off of your head. Jesus said this, *"When you know the truth, the truth will set you free."* Most of us in here really don't know the truth, we're totally confused. One of the reasons we're confused is we hear so many messages.

At school you hear the message since you're doing it, why don't we show you the safe way to do it.

Then you have some friends telling you another message. It was no big deal or it wasn't that great or it was wonderful.

Then you come to church and they say it is great, it is wonderful within the context of marriage. And all these messages are confusing. When you know the truth, the truth will set you free.

Today we're going to talk about some differences between guys and girls. Why are guys so strange and girls so different?

Some stereotypical differences. Are there some exceptions to these? Yes, there are some exceptions, but the exceptions are very rare. You might think all the differences are physical but the differences are bigger than that.

I'm not talking about the basic plumbing. I understand that you understand that. But there are some major differences on how God has wired us that I think are very important for us to understand.

SOME STEREOTYPICAL DIFFERENCES

1. Girls are RELATIONAL.

Girls love relationships. They love to be together. More guys come to youth on their own than girls. Not that guys love to come alone, but girls you always see them standing by the door waiting for somebody. When they go to the bathroom, what do they do? They make a field trip out of it! Then they can be in the bathroom for 15 minutes – make up, washing your hands, practicing your smile. They love to live within relationships. Girls are very relational. Guys: you never see guys going, "Hey! Let's all go to the bathroom! Go with me!" Guys are a little more vulgar and rude and say things like, "I gotta take a leak! Be back in a second." You don't hear girls talking like that. You won't hear a girl say that.

But while girls are relational, **Guys are PHYSICAL**. Girls, you are turned on by a relationship. Guys, we are turned on by touch. Some girls you think it's no big deal. You walk up to a guy and kind of stroke his arm or put your arm around him or, not even knowing it, kind of bump against him. He's trying to look cool but inside he's like "YES!"

When you take these two differences, that girls are relational and guys are physical, the result is oftentimes very painful. In 13 years of working with teenagers, they say, "It started off great. We talked on the phone about everything. He would write me letters. He was so kind and sweet." Then when the door opens up and the physical relationship starts, oftentimes the guy drags the girl through that door and they become physical. She got the relationship, now he thinks, "I want the touch." Then, once the touch and the physical enter in, a lot of the stuff that was important to the girl begins to disappear because it's a whole lot easier to make out than it is to talk. It's a whole lot easier to have sex than it is to build a relationship, a spiritual relationship, an intellectual relationship, an emotional relationship. Now the guy has got what he's wanting and the relationship starts to fade. And the girl is wounded, broken "I thought this was going to last forever!" Guys may say forever and really meant it, but in reality forever for a guy is often just a few weeks away. Where, forever for a girl often can be a life spent with you.

If that hasn't happened to you I guarantee you, you know somebody who it's happened to. Those are differences and the differences tend to hurt each other.

2. Girls are VERBAL.

Girls love to talk. Girls can talk on the phone about nothing for hours to people they don't even like. All kinds of detail; they love to tell every single thing – what he was wearing, what he said.

Guys don't like details. "Just give me the facts!"

Like when sit down and watch Sports Center. Guys just want the details. Who won? What was the score? Other people wonder what life would be like being married to Derek Jeter. What's his day like? What do you think he does in the off time?

Guys are VISUAL. Guys are visually stimulated and visually oriented. Why is it that 99% of all pornography is aimed toward the guy? Because the guy is turned on visually. The greatest invention for the guy would not be Internet, the telephone, not electricity, but sunglasses. Once a guy's got sunglasses on, he can check everything and everyone out. Those eyes are back there zooming in!

Girls, I know you don't know this. You might think you know it, but you don't know how visually stimulated guys can get. Just how easily they can get turned on just by seeing something. Guys can get turned on by seeing a mannequin. Girls, you're laughing at that but guys are thinking, "How did he know?" Those guys are thinking they're the only ones. These mannequins – they have nipples now. Wow! They've got no head, they've got no arms, but it doesn't matter to a guy!

You girls, you say, "Why do guys always stare?" Some girls need to look at what they are wearing. Just stand there for a moment and think about it. You go to school tomorrow and you walk by, they visually undress you. Girls don't have to wear clothes that are smaller than they are or that fit your little sister. Guys are visual.

3. Girls prefer ROMANCE.

Ladies have a greater concern to be loved and cherished and romanced. And there's a greater concern for family and security and quality relationships. Ninety-nine percent of pornography is geared toward guys. Ninety-nine percent of romance novels are geared toward girls. When I was in middle school, I was introduced to my first romance novel by my best friend at a church youth group overnight. Instead of eating pizza and playing ping pong, like everyone else, my eyes were being unveiled to my first experience of pornographic literature – that's essentially what it was. At first, all I would read was the "juicy" parts when my friend would steal them from her mom. Then I started borrowing the books from her. I started reading the whole books, then buying my own. Before you knew it, I was hooked. You may think, well it's just a book – it's not like you're REALLY having sex or anything! But let me tell you what the enemy slowly did to me. I started believing over time, that if I didn't get the attention that these fictional girls were getting in the book, there was something wrong with me. If I didn't get the attention, I would start to dress suggestively, rub up a little closer to the boys, anything I could to get the focus where I thought it needed to be on me. That led to a very rough, devastating road for me – that all started from a "harmless, fictional story."

For guys, a romance movie is like Jackie Chan in Paris or something like that; but girls are romantic. **Guys prefer ACTION.** (Let's make it happen. We can do things fast.) Girls take an hour and a half for you to get dressed. Guys, we need like two minutes to find our hat, spray some deodorant and we're out the door.

4. Girls tend to FEEL their emotions while guys tend to THINK their emotions.

Girls feel their emotions, what's going on inside, angry, happy. You can usually see it right away. What guys do is they think about it. They move right into the logic. I'm not saying that girls don't think and guys don't feel, but the primary emotion that immediately happens is the feeling – girls are feeling-oriented.

Guys, you know when something's wrong with a girl. They kind of have that look. Here we guys are over here thinking. So we ask this question: "What are you thinking?" Wrong question! They're feeling all these things and when we ask, "What are you thinking?" They say, "Nothing"; because you're not thinking about anything. So we go, "Oh! Everything must be okay"; and we just kind of move on through life.

These are major, major differences. I think women are just better at being emotional. Guys, we can only handle so much emotion and then we kind of check out. "That doesn't bother me. No big deal." We want to figure it out and solve the problem.

5. A girl's sex drive is SLOW and a guy's sex drive is FAST.

A girl's sex drive is like a dimmer switch. You've seen these dimmer switches; you can slowly turn them on. Guys don't have a dimmer switch. Guys just have an on button. They don't even have an off button. The way I best explain the difference is it's like a finely tuned orchestra. A girl's sex drive is like an orchestra. You've seen the orchestra leaders with the white gloves and the little deal – they get the woodwinds going. Then they move over to the brass section and it begins to build and then they get the other. And it builds. That's a girl's sex drive. It slowly builds.

A guy's sex drive does not need any time at all. It's not like an orchestra. It's like a drum solo. That's it!

A wife does not need to ask her husband, "Would you like to have sex?" She already knows the answer is "Yes." Some of you in here are going, "You're just a pervert." No. I'm a male. And guys know that I'm representing it very well.

Why do we need to know these differences or spend time with them? Because it's these differences that wind up destroying one another. It's these differences when we don't think about the other person that we destroy. Why is it that half of the marriages in our world don't make it? Because we don't understand the differences and we don't appreciate the differences. Why is it that so many high school students make sexual decisions that impact them for the rest of their lives? Because we don't understand these differences and we don't honor one another.

These differences can be so beautiful. In the right context with the right heart, these differences... Ladies, you can make a guy so much better. And guys, you can bring something out in a woman that is incredible. But typically outside the context of true love and marriage, these differences beat one another up. I love you enough to tell you the truth. I don't want to just say, "Let's laugh about the differences." I want to give you something to think about. I want you to see some truths.

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH THESE DIFFERENCES?

1. You recognize that God has designed you as an **ORIGINAL MASTERPIECE**.

When you don't recognize this, here's what you do. When you don't see that God has created you totally unique, that there are six billion people on this playground we call earth and there is nobody like you at all and you don't realize that you are an original masterpiece. What you try to do is be a carbon copy of everybody else. You want to talk like them, you want to look like them, and you want to dress like them. Even those of you in here that think you're alternative. All the alternative people look exactly the same. You become a carbon copy of the alternatives. We try to be like everybody else. We try to be a carbon copy.

God says, "When I created you I created you to be unique; an original." If you don't believe that here's what happens; you go out in the world and try to find value and love to make feel better, prettier or happier. When you don't believe that God created you to be this original masterpiece, you act like a carbon copy and you search for love. "Maybe this relationship will do it... Maybe if I give in and have sex this will happen... Maybe if I live the world's way maybe it will fill this void I'm looking for."

One of the Psalms reminds me how much God has been involved in this process. In ***Psalm 13, "You made all the delicate inner parts of my body and you knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex. Your workmanship is marvelous and how well I know it. You watched me when I was being formed in utter seclusion as I was woven together in the dark of the womb."***

Maybe some of you in here think you were an accident. That's what your parents told you. God has been designing you and creating you. There's nobody like you at all. You are an original masterpiece. When you realize this, you begin to honor yourself and you don't have to do desperate things to get loved. As a matter of fact, when you realize you're an original masterpiece, you move into a posture, a position of honor.

1 Thessalonians, "God wants you to be holy so keep away from all sexual sin..." You're going, "Holy? I'm not even perfect." That's not what holy means; holy means to be set apart. When you become a Christian you become set apart from the world's way – holy. God wants you to be holy, set apart from the world's standard and keep yourself from sexual sin ***"...and each of you control your body and live in holiness and honor. Not in lustful passions as the pagans do, in their ignorance of God and his ways."*** Why are we lustful, why are we sexual, why do we want to go out and get high; because we're ignorant of God and his ways. We're ignorant of how much God loves us so we have to go out and search for it and find it and try to get it out of a relationship.

2. Understand the differences between male and female and **HONOR ONE ANOTHER**.

I know this is a big deal – to honor one another. Some girls think that they should be able to just wear whatever they want not matter how big or how small it is.

Here's my response: you're right. And you're wrong. You're right; it is the guy's problem. It's something that guys have got to work on and control their lust and their fantasy and how they're stimulated, but that is how God has designed us. The wrong part is you'd be so honorable if you understood that and you didn't feed into it. Sure it's the guy's problem, but

it's your problem as well. **2 Corinthians 10:31-32 says "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether Jews, Greeks or the church of God..."** Now I know it's impossible to know everyone's reaction to every little thing you do. So naturally, you may do something that people get offended by in your life. HOWEVER, when it comes to sexuality, girls, you KNOW in your hearts if what you are wearing would intentionally turn a guy on. You may think, "showing a little cleavage doesn't hurt anything," or "everyone's wearing tight shirts, that's the style!" Well, that may be all it takes for a guy to start lusting. If you are doing what you know to be right, than you will have no reason to be worried about how the guys' brains' are working. If it's unwholesome, at least it's not your fault.

We have to try to figure out how to live together the best we can in this world without tempting each other to sin.

The Bible says in **Romans 12:10, "Love each other with genuine affection."** Take delight, enjoy it, love it, have joy in honoring each other.

A definition of love, if you look this up in your Bible you'd find more. I just put a little piece in here. It talks about what real love is. **"Love is patient..."** Lust is not patient. Lust is selfish. Lust is immediate. Guys, what do we say, "If you love me you will..." No, that's not the Bible's definition of love. Love is patient. As a matter of fact, if you love me, you'll wait.

"Love is kind. Love is not jealous or boastful..." Guys, what do we brag about? "How far I've gone." We boast about it. That's not love. That's inflated lust. Here's a picture of love: girls, do you want love in your life? First learn what the definition is. Then don't settle for anything but that. Guys, do you want to be in a great relationship? Learn what it means to love and to honor.

"... or proud or rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged." Understand the differences and honor one another.

3. Make a commitment to honor God with YOUR BODY.

As a Christian, I'm going to make a commitment and say, "God, I'm going to honor you with how I live my life." How do you honor God? One of the ways you honor God is with your body. You say, "I'm going to make a commitment to save myself, to wait, to not put myself in situations." Of course it's difficult to do that. Of course, every thing, every neuron, every cell wants us to be flesh and to be lust. But make a commitment.

1 Corinthians 6, "Don't you realize that your bodies are actually parts of Christ? Should a man take his body which belongs to Christ and join it to a prostitute? Never. And don't you know that if a man joins himself to a prostitute he becomes one body with her. For the scriptures say 'Two are united into one.'" The next one we hear at wedding sometimes. **"Leave your father and mother and cleave to one another. Two becomes one.**

Why is it I said last week we carry these sexual ghosts into a marriage? Because we've become one with other people. When you've become one with somebody, you will never forget that. It wasn't just physical. It was spiritual as well. Two become one is a graphic illustration of sex, intercourse, and two becoming one; the two united into one. But the person who is joined to the Lord becomes one Spirit with him. I'm going to make a commitment to be one with God and honor God with my body.

Then it gives some advice, **"Run away from sexual sin. No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body. Don't you know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit?"** Those of you in here that have said yes to God and have said be the Lord of my life; part of God comes into your life. Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who lives in you and who was given to you by God.

"You do not belong to yourself for God's bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body." When Jesus Christ died on the cross, God paid a price for your sin and my sin. **"Whoever would believe in him and accept that payment would not have to be separated from God, but could be reconciled to God."** There was a price on the cross. That price was for you so you could live life and celebrate it so you don't have to die in a pile. You don't have to live with mess and consequences.

Some of you have been cruising through life, you've come to church your whole life and you've never really realized that Jesus died on the cross. There was a price paid for *you*. Because of that price all ought to say "God thank you for paying that price so I don't have to be separated from you. I can be reconciled to you. Because of that, I want to honor you with my body. I want to honor you with my relationships. I want to honor you with how I live my life." Jesus Christ died on the cross so you and I might have life.