

Let's
talk
about

SEX!



LET'S TALK ABOUT SEX!

It's ~~HOT!~~

There's no doubt about it - one of the hardest jobs in today's society is that of being a single Christian and this includes young and old alike.

Picture this if you will:

God has chosen 'the one' and you agree that He has not only made the right choice but that you should abstain from sex until you are both married.

In a straight-forward situation where the wedding is not far off this would not be too hard a task but.....

what happens if you're not going to get married for quite a while yet **OR EVEN WORSE** you may be sure that God has made the right choice but your boyf/girlf isn't sure yet ?

SUDDENLY the world becomes a very frustrating, sometimes frightening and often very unfair place to live.

ON TOP OF THAT...

you have the added joy of the knowledge of that "Christian" couple who are getting away with exactly the thing you're struggling with..

RIGHT UNDER YOUR NOSE !

SOUND FAMILIAR ?

THEN READ ON....

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ??

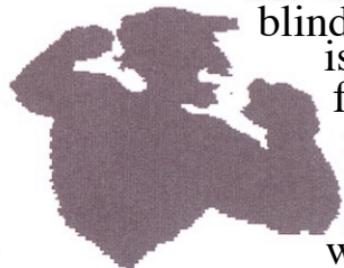


The big deal is that God has made sex to be a perfect and consecrated offering to both your partner and to God himself.

A lot of people have sex through impatience or lust.

God has been teaching me the truth about lust or "lost love".

The world has coined the phrase "love is blind" but I would disagree. Lust is blind - it is a grabbing, selfish, impatient type of feeling. Love has it's eyes wide open - that's why love hurts.



Lust says "I'm entitled to this, you owe it to me. I don't care what you want or whether it causes you to sin, I want this now and I'm not waiting any longer."

Love says "This is really hard but I'll do anything for you - even this. If it's going to cause you to sin then we'll gouge it out together. I'll wait as long as it takes."

Love also takes the backseat. It is a freedom that must be shared.

"Greater love has no-one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13)

Jesus is the ultimate love. He gave up His life, His dreams, His ambition for us - and we must do the same in any relationships that we are in.

"WHAT ??"

"But I'm a child of the nineties - I have my own dreams and ambitions, I'm an individual I can do what I want, when I want, after all isn't that what God gave me free will for?"

Yes. But if you take on a life that is willing to give up

everything firstly to follow God and secondly to take on what your partner wants then you will be living a truly loving relationship and you will find that you are not losing out on what you want to do.

“Yeah, yeah and I bet you find all this really easy – NOT !!”

You're not wrong ! No person who is attempting to be in the world and not of it is going to find this a piece of cake BUT God has promised to help us.

“So let's get down to the nitty gritty then, let's talk sex.”

Well I've found some really cool verses that I think might help to answer some of the most pressing questions asked about sex.

The format is as follows;

Q - Question.

BB- Bible bashing.

E - Explanation.

Q1. How far can we go ?

BB. Colossians 2: 20–23.

Since you died with Christ to the basic principles of this world, why as though you still belonged to it, do you submit to it's rules: “Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!” These are all destined to perish with use because they are based on human commands and teachings. Such regulations indeed

have an appearance of wisdom, with their self imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.



E. THIS DOES NOT MEAN WHAT YOU HOPE IT DOES!
What it means is that the discipline needs to be a HEARTFELT attitude. There's no point you as a couple deciding that you'll only ever snog when you know that while you're "only" snogging you're wishing inside that it could go further. You need to pray that God will bring you peace and contentment where you are whatever you are doing, and that if needs be that God will change your attitude completely to certain aspects of your physical relationship. You have a responsibility to each other to keep away from those "hot spots" at all costs, even if your loins are on fire ! Sometimes the question to ask is not "How far can we go" but "How near does God want us to stay to Him ?" and when you honour Him He will bless you.

BB. Romans 8:28

And we know in all things God works for the good of those who love Him (this means trust and obedience) and have been called according to His purpose.

BB. 1 Corinthians 6:18



Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.

E. When we ask “How far can we go?” we are being influenced by the world around us. If you read the verse above carefully it says *flee from*, not “try to get as close to as possible”. The Greek word translated in our bibles as ‘sexual immorality’ is *porneo* and that simply means ‘sex outside marriage’. So we are to *flee from sex outside marriage*.

That should make a difference to how we approach the subject. Instead of ‘*how much can we do without actually sinning?*’ we should be asking ‘*how little can we do to keep the pressure down?*’. It’s totally the other way round to what the world is asking!! So, if you have your relationship and only hold hands, that’s great. If you don’t have any problems with that, don’t let what others think influence you.

There are no biblical guidelines which say ‘this far and no further’ (apart from not going ‘all the way’), but our aim should be not to get close to the slippery slope beyond which we’re out of control.

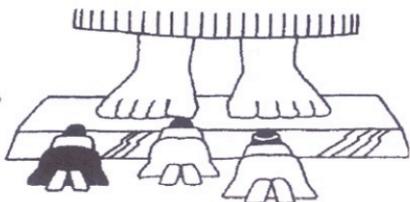
Another way to think about it is to consider the long term goals of your relationship. Are you planning to get married? Then you are on a road which will *eventually* lead to sexual intercourse. Moving slowly towards it as the relationship continues (eg after getting engaged) will be part of the way your relationship naturally develops.

However, if there are no plans for marriage yet; and especially if you expect the relationship to be shortlived; then you are not on a road which is leading towards sexual intercourse, so you shouldn’t be aiming for it.

Q2. What about masturbation ?

BB. Exodus 20:4.

You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to worship them....



E. Think about it...and you'll realise that this is half the problem - thoughts. It is a low percentage of people who do not fantasize whilst in the act of masturbation - and even if you are in the minority that don't really think but do it simply to relieve sexual tension (and there's a lot when you're practising celibacy!) you need to ask who you're relying on at the time. Obviously fantasy is realised idolatry - one person being used to create a completely different life and all the feelings that go with it.

But simple release of tension via masturbation can also be seen as idolatry. Should / can we not trust God to relieve this by His Holy Spirit ? When you think about the short lived orgasm which often comes with major guilt and shame attached, compared to the everlasting buzz of the Holy Spirit, things come into perspective. Try it some time, it's a much better fix !

Q3. Wouldn't it make more sense to live with my partner before we even think about getting married ?

BB. 1 Corinthians 9:13.

E. Think about it logically.

You're in the same house day in, day out. You may have been going out for years, you may even be engaged but you're determined to stay celibate until you're wedding day and you've successfully managed to stay away from any temptation so far....

But suddenly the fact that he keeps his toenails in the drawer next to his bed becomes strangely appealing and suddenly you just want to see what it's like to sleep in the same bed with him - well it's cold in your little bed, not to mention lonely - and you definitely won't do anything more than just sleep.



YEAH RIGHT !

I'm afraid that we have the Dairy Milk syndrome here - one chunk leads to another. And suddenly you find yourself very close to actually having intercourse. There is always a way out from temptation but you both have to be willing to take that option and I would say that one of the easiest ways is not to put the temptation there in the first place.

Q4. And what about those Christians who do live together and are having sex?



BB. Romans 16: 17-19.

I urge you brothers to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that

are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them. For such people are not serving our Lord Christ but their own appetites...but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil.

E. This does not tell us to judge people. But it states fact - they are not serving God but themselves. It is best to stay away from them- surround yourself with fellow believers who are wanting the same things as you are. Pray for each other and be accountable to each other and God.

Q5.Will God forgive me if I've had sex outside of marriage ?

BB. 1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

E. This will NEVER change. If we say sorry and REPENT He will forgive us.

But REPENT means not doing it ever again- or at least wanting that to be the case and knowing in your heart that you'll do everything to keep it that way. If we say sorry but we'll bear it in mind next time a Chippendale/supermodel comes to town then there is no repentance in this. He will not be mocked SO BE WARNED !

Q6. How do I know that it will be worth the wait ?

BB. Jeremiah 29:11.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future”

E. I guess this boils down to trust, but also common sense. Go and talk to the lonely single mothers, the people with venereal diseases, the people who have slept with 126 people and are still searching for “the one” and you’ll soon see the sense in waiting. Also don’t forget that if you obey God then He will be able to show you the way that He wants you to go.

There are many other topics that need to be addressed in all these areas and if you feedback on this booklet and I’m sure we can arrange a further one on some of the other issues raised as a result.

However until that day...

Do speak to a MATURE Christian.

Do support your friends.

Do pray and read the bible with your partner
and

Do wait for the time that God has ordained for you.

In the mean time on the next pages there is some advice from your fellow men (and women !)



" God calls us to wait to make sure that we have the right person and so that we can build up a loving relationship rather than basing it on sex."

"Sex is a gift from God that has been given to us for our wedding night."

"I think that having sex before marriage is stupid and people will regret it,.....I know because I had sex and I regret it."

"We must love Homosexuals it is a sin like any other."

"You shouldn't condemn Christians who have a sexual relationship before marriage but you should pray for them."

"God calls us to wait because when they get married they become one in God's eyes and then He lets them delight in each other."

"I don't think that living together is a problem if it's in separate bedrooms."

A big thankyou to all the people that were mature and honest enough to fill in the questionnaires. Sex is a huge problem in the youth of today. You have all the answers through God.

This booklet was written by older members of TFG,
based on their own experiences and those of
others who completed a survey.

You will have received it free of charge.

It cost about 50p to produce.

If you found it to be helpful, you might like to consider
making a donation towards the work of
Twyford Fellowship Group.

