THE PROBLEM OF GOD: Sex

Week 3, September 23, 2018

Reading Plan

Day 1-

THINK: Over the last 24 hours, what messages (blatant or subtle) have you seen or heard in the media, at work, in your home, or anywhere else regarding sex?

READ: 1 Corinthians 6:12

REFLECT: The Roman culture's attitude toward sexuality of Paul's day was comparable to the culture we live in today. In light of that, what is the wisdom of Paul's words to the Corinthian church? How does sex become a "master"?

PRACTICE: Examine your heart and mind regarding your views on sex and experiences (past and present). Ask God to reveal His Truth to you, to call you to repentance where needed, to healing, to freedom, to His plan.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

WATCH: Joshua Harris answers the question, "What is the relationship between God and sexuality?" in this short clip from Right Now Media:

https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/VideoElement/151000

*If you do not yet have a RNM account, sign up for a FREE one today! (https://whoisgrace.com/rightnowmedia/)

Day 2-

READ: Genesis 1:27-28; 2:18, 21-25

REFLECT: Before sin entered the world, what seems to be the design for sex according to God's words in Genesis 1-2? Procreation, pleasure and intimacy (bonding) are three words that could describe the purpose of sex. Why would this be best within a marriage relationship?

PRACTICE: Are you single? Married? Divorced? Widowed? Whatever your status/life stage, what is your view of your own sexuality and sex-life? Do you believe this is God's view? (The "Take it Further" article will help you think this through)

TAKE IT FURTHER!

THINK: What are your assumptions about the God's design for sex?

READ: "Sex According to the Bible" from The Gospel Coalition gives a comprehensive list of truths from Scripture regarding sex. (https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/justin-taylor/sex-according-to-the-bible/)

Day 3-

READ: <u>Ephesians 1:4-6</u>

REFLECT: Sometimes it's so easy to think that our sexuality is our identity. What radical claim does God make about our identity? How can that change how someone feels about their sex life (or lack of it)?

PRACTICE: Grab a piece of paper or your journal. Write, "who I am" across the top and list what you think about yourself. Stop and pray over this list. "God, is this who you say I am?" Listen to Him. Read His Word and find the TRUTH. (Bonus: Listen to Lauren Daigle's song "Here's My Heart" or "You Say" while you do this.)

TAKE IT FURTHER!

STUDY: For access to multiple articles about sexual purity, check out Desiring God: https://www.desiringgod.org/topics/sexual-purity#

Day 4-

READ: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

REFLECT: What is your view of sex today, after reading and studying this week? Is sex very BAD, the ultimate GOD or really GOOD?

PRACTICE: Have a conversation with someone. Ask, "how do you think God views sex?"

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: "Talking to Children about God's Design for Sexuality" is an article from Ligonier ministries that will help you think and prepare to have conversations with your children: https://www.ligonier.org/blog/talking-children-gods-design-sexuality/

Day 5-

READ: Romans 8:1-16

REFLECT: For many, sex/ sexuality is a subject filled with hurt, guilt, shame, confusion. What does it mean that, as a child of God, you do not live under condemnation?

PRACTICE: Cry out to "Abba" (father) in your brokenness. He will meet you there! And reach out for help- God doesn't want you to walk alone. Email gethelp@whoisgrace.com to find a listening ear and start on the road toward healing.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: 2 Peter 1:2-4

REFLECT: "Nearly all wisdom we possess, that is to say, true and sound wisdom, consists of two parts: the knowledge of God and the knowledge of ourselves." – John Calvin

PRACTICE: What does it look like for you, a child of God, dearly loved, to take a step today toward growing in the wisdom of God and surrendering your sexuality and your sex-life to God? Ask God for courage to take that step, knowing that He walks with you!

STUDY: To further engage with the Bible on this topic, check out these resources on Right Now Media: "Sex Crazed Culture" (https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/241370); "The Truth About Sex"- a study for youth (https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/85)

*If you do not yet have a RNM account, sign up for a FREE one today! (https://whoisgrace.com/rightnowmedia/)