

# Sex

## Learning to Love in Love by Winkie Pratney

-The current generation has never learned to love because of the terrible example of love and commitment shown by their parents. Divorce is the norm, physical and emotional abuse is all too common.

-Josh McDowall points out that the two greatest fears of young people today are the fear they will never be loved, and the fear that they will never be able to love.

-people who have been through divorce know that the worst pain and greatest fear are centered around the same thing - losing your family.

-so, a choice must be made - do you want this to happen to you?

## **What's Love Got to Do With It?**

-the media paints a very false picture of sex. On TV and in the movies, extra-marital sex is always glamorous, fun, and no-strings-attached. In reality it is often accompanied by disease, heartache, and emotional, mental, spiritual, and even physical pain.

-when the media does show reality, it always hits a nerve (consider movies like "Kramer vs. Kramer" or "Fatal Attraction"). Deep in our souls we know that what God says is true:

**-1 Cor 6:18-20** "Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body." (NIV)

-when you sleep with someone, you sleep with everyone they've ever slept with! When you give yourself sexually to someone, you give away a part of your soul that you will never get back Sex is never just sex - sexual sin can destroy you.

-Ed Cole "*You cannot compensate by sacrifice what you lose through disobedience*", therefore, the best thing we can do is to abstain from sex until we are married.

## **Seven Reasons to Save Sex for Marriage:**

### **1. Debt**

-free sex is never free - the cost of teen-age child bearing in the US alone is over 16.5 billion dollars per year - not to mention the unfathomable price of all of those hurt hearts (and aborted babies!!!)

### **2. Disease**

-twenty years ago there were two sexually transmitted diseases, now there are twenty-nine, many of which render you sterile. 33,000 people a day in the US alone contract an STD.

### **-Prov 5:15-23**

-true sexual freedom means to be able to love without reservation or hesitation - and this is totally possible only in a monogamous marriage.

### **3. Disappointment**

-sex is never casual

-each time you have sex with someone, you link your body and soul to them, and give them a part of yourself you will never get back

-there is no avoiding the re-runs of your past, even when you are someday in a marriage - think how horrible it will be to have to tell your future husband/wife about the people you've been with, or to have to hear about the people they've been with??

#### **4. Distrust**

- what about when you are engaged? What difference does a piece of paper make? A lot!
- Ed Cole "Not all of passion is love, and not all of love is passion"
- the best way to hurt a growing friendship is to violate the rules that set up your trust - it's a fact that over half of all engagements break up, most because of sex and the trust issues it raises. "If we can't control ourselves now, what's to say we will control ourselves in marriage?"

#### **5. Dilution**

- every sex act is a giving away of yourself
- sex in marriage is God's way of making two people one (**Genesis 4:1**)
- you can love and be loved forever! But every extra-marital sexual act strains or shatters a bond you build with the person you want as the love of your life.

#### **6. Dependency**

- sexual sin is addictive - *and addictions form when you try to derive lasting pleasure from something that cannot in its very nature satisfy. Sex outside of God's loving laws can never fully satisfy!*
- sexual sin can have many forms: fornication (**I Cor. 6:18**), adultery(**Matt. 5:27-28**), sodomy or lesbianism (**Lev. 18:22, Rom. 1:24-32**), and any form of near sex that allows anything other than actual intercourse (**Rom 13:13-14**).
- sex is so powerful and fundamental in life that when it is misused, it is devastating

#### **7. Divorce**

- we are all looking to be loved, to be safe, to be cared for forever, but with so many divorces all around it is very obvious that it is important to do it right the first time
- the test of true love isn't sex but trust!
- everyone hates divorce, even God (**Malachi 2:15-16**)
- you **can** have a marriage that lasts- remember that there is only one first time, and it is worth saving it for the one you'll spend forever with.

#### **A Word for the Single**

- it's okay to be single! To be single and have the **grace from God to live single without sexual involvement is a gift from God** (Luke 18:29)
- I Cor. 7:7-9
- I Cor. 7:17-20

#### **How to Get Clean**

**Three extra things will help when you are being healed by Jesus from sexual sin:**

##### **1. Expect miracles, not magic**

-2 Sam 12:9-14 - the things David did had consequences, and forgiveness does not always stop consequences - sin hurts! But the big miracle is that God loves, and really forgives!

##### **2. God is faithful**

-power over sin comes from a fresh revelation of Christ at your own point of humble need - you commit your life to Him, and He commits His life to you (2 Tim 2:13)

##### **3. Enlist a friend**

-even Jesus in the garden was not ashamed to ask His friends to be near when He most needed to be strong. Be accountable - ask for help!