

# Outline

## What Would You Do...for Love? The Sex Question

Even as we speak, Travis, our Student Ministry Pastor is getting ready to do a message series on the topic of sex with our middle and high school students when he returns from Peru in mid-June. Now I don't know how you feel about the idea of Travis talking to your kids about what the Bible says about sex, but I am pretty sure they have a clue concerning what it is about and they are forming their opinions and have probably discussed the issue in some detail with a group of respected counselors in their lives – their friends. And I do not know if you have walked the halls of your local middle school or high school lately, but it seems to be a pretty hot topic. Don't think so? If you have teenagers, go over and cruise the internet while they are on and check out some of the friends that make up their My Space friends list. You will not have to go too far until you see the topic addressed or pics that depict boys and girls in pretty sexy poses. Now I know none your children would find themselves in any of those topics or poses, but I am pretty sure that you will find the topic of sex among their "friends list." I know that we have had to have some chats about this at our house. (But I have obeyed my children and cleaned up my *My Space* site. Good thing they don't know about *Twitter* yet!) So I for one am thankful that we can address what the Bible has to say about this topic of sex in a positive atmosphere and from a positive text. If we cannot be open about sex and how it is a part of love and vice-versa in church, then where can we talk about it?

So since they are addressing this topic in Rush Hour, I think it is only appropriate that we consider the topic in here within the guidelines of our series, *What Would You Do...?* **Contrary to what you might think, the leading teacher about sex and about anything in general to kids and teens today is not the peer group. It is still the parents.** Your children are listening to your words and watching your actions for guidance in how to live their lives. I know, I know... when they become teens, they give you the silent treatment, make you feel like you are out of touch, and give you the sense that they are not listening to anything you say. It does not feel good (believe me, I am right in the middle of it as a parent). However, the research is there that indicates that **the primary teacher of all lessons in life to children and teens through their words and through their modeling is parents.** With that said, what are you teaching your kids about sex and about love and about sex and love? They are learning by following "What Would You Do...?"

Therefore, we have to think about this issue before we find ourselves in the situation. And, once again, this is a topic where if you have not decided how you will act, you will act in a way that you later regret: with an unplanned pregnancy, illness, regretted relationships, or worse – raw emotions and immense stress. So, I guess my question is two-fold:

If you are single or single again, what would you do... when you find yourself on that first date, in that situation where you are highly attracted to that beautiful babe, when your glands just simply are screaming at you that you need sex? Is there a correct answer? Is there a biblical answer? What would God have you do?

And secondly for those who are married, what would you do... when the topic of sex arises in the home? Is she just a frigid tyrant using sex as a weapon to keep you in line? Is he simply an over-sexed and under-disciplined cave man who is just shy of forcing you all the time? Is sex a natural and good part of a married life that can be used not to dominate but enhance a beautiful friendship? When it comes to sex in marriage, "What Would You Do...?" and what are you teaching your children to do?

**Are you teaching your children that there are boundaries for sex?**

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Now, getting down to the questions you asked in your letter to me. First, Is it a good thing to have sexual relations? Certainly—but only within a certain context. It's good for a man to have a wife, and for a woman to have a husband. Sexual drives are strong, but marriage is strong enough to contain them and provide for a balanced and fulfilling sexual life in a world of sexual disorder. I Corinthians 7:1-2 TM

- ◇ The Media teaches that sex is a natural part of dating.
- ◇ Society accepts that the feeling of love is good enough for the act of sex.
- ◇ The Bible counsels that sex is the physical celebration of the ultimate exploration of two souls.
- ◇ You teach your kids about sex and marriage by the example you set in your own life – your dating life, and your viewing habits.

### **Are you teaching your children that marriage is honorable?**

Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. Hebrews 13:4 NIV

Honor marriage, and guard the sacredness of sexual intimacy between wife and husband. God draws a firm line against casual and illicit sex. Hebrews 13:4 TM

- ◇ The Bible counsels that sex should be a product of two committed people who seriously seek intimacy of heart, soul, mind, and body.

### **Are you teaching your children that affection and sex are a shameless, essential part of married life?**

The marriage bed must be a place of mutuality—the husband seeking to satisfy his wife, the wife seeking to satisfy her husband. Marriage is not a place to "stand up for your rights." Marriage is a decision to serve the other, whether in bed or out.

I Corinthians 7:3 TM

- ◇ Men and women approach sex differently and this must be learned and taught.
- ◇ Sex for men is need, while sex for women is an enhancement. (monthly cycle)
- ◇ Affection for a woman is a need, while affection for a man is a chore.
- ◇ Men are aroused by sight, while women are aroused by affection. That's why ladies will catch their men looking and men think their women are flirting when another man compliments them and they chuckle appreciatively.
- ◇ A marriage with no sex is a frustrating marriage for a man and a marriage with no affection is a frustrating marriage for a woman.

When it comes to sex and affection, you can't have one without the other...Affection is the environment of the marriage, sex is the special event.

*His Needs Her Needs* by Dr. Willard Harley

### **Are you teaching your children that self-discipline is essential to maturity?**

Abstaining from sex is permissible for a period of time if you both agree to it, and if it's for the purposes of prayer and fasting—but only for such times. Then come back together again. Satan has an ingenious way of tempting us when we least expect it.

I Corinthians 7:6 TM

- ◇ Sex and Affection are the disciplines of marriage, unbelievably.

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- ◇ The lack of either will create an unbalanced marriage and open it up for disaster.

But if they can't manage their desires and emotions, they should by all means go ahead and get married. The difficulties of marriage are preferable by far to a sexually tortured life as a single. I Corinthians 7:7 TM

- ◇ Just because one feels the need, does not mean they need to act on the need.
- ◇ Undisciplined "anything" leads to dysfunction.
- ◇ Get to know the soul thoroughly before getting to know the body, for the body will always rule the soul where there is no discipline.
- ◇ Your modeling and your taking the time to open discussion on sex will guide your child successfully.

**When it comes to Sex, What Would You Do? Apply the Golden Rule.**

"Do unto others as you would have them do to you." Luke 6:31

"Meet your spouse's needs as you would want your spouse to meet yours."

*His Needs her Needs* - Dr. Willard Harley

**Theme: – Know the biblical boundaries of Love and Sex and be willing to draw the line with loved ones.**

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