

1. Sex

Principle – Sex is part of God’s perfect plan for his creation - for exclusive expression within marriage where it contributes to genuine intimacy and pleasure, and ensures the best environment for the nurturing of children that may be born as a result of that expression.

Key Scripture:

Matthew 19:4-6 "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the **beginning** the Creator `made them male and female,' and said, `For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh' ? ⁶ So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."

1 Corinthians 6:4-5 The wife's body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband's body does not belong to him alone but also to his wife. ⁵ Do not deprive each other except by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer.

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

Comment

Sex was God’s idea, and like all of His creation, it works best when used as the creator intended – ie within marriage. It is an essential part (but not the only part) of truly becoming “one flesh”. Godly control of this powerful force in our lives leads to a healthy expression of our sexual-being in the desire to marry and to maintain that physical expression throughout marriage. Never underestimate the power of temptation in this area. Joseph provides an excellent example in resisting the temptation put before him by Potiphar’s wife (Gen 39:6-12)

Application in daily life??

- ♦ Actively live-out the Scripture that asks everybody (married or not) to honour marriage and to not let sex be cheapened by condoning it’s use outside of marriage. This has major implications regarding the movies, TV shows etc that we watch or approve of.
- ♦ Acknowledge that sex is a God-ordained part of a healthy marriage and it is to be treated as a mutual-responsibility, not a bargaining tool.
- ♦ We need to treat sexual temptation with the utmost respect whether we are married or single. This temptation is like a fire, once light, it will never put itself out!

Our example? Do I have the reputation as someone who actively supports that sex is only for expression within marriage or do I support Satan’s attempts to destroy lives by condoning or participating in sexual activity outside of marriage?