

WEEK 4: WHY DOES GOD CARE WHO I SLEEP WITH?

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

PREPARE

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MAIN POINT

The Roman philosopher Aristides observed that Christians were known for their generosity and their strict sexual ethics, while the rest of Rome was generous sexually but not with their resources. In other words, Christians have always had a different sexual ethic. Why? Because sex isn't only about sex – it's designed union between a man and a woman in a covenant marriage that reflects God's union with humanity, part of God's design to share the gospel with the world. Sex by His design leaves us with no shame, just as our union with Him results in our shame being removed. We are wise to run from sex that is outside His design.

LEAN IN BREAK THE ICE

What are some helpful, humorous, or hurtful pieces of relationship advice you've been given?

LOOK DOWN LOOK AT GOD'S WORD

Read Genesis 2:22-25

22 Then the Lord God made the rib he had taken from the man into a woman and brought her to the man. 23 And the man said: This one, at last, is bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh; this one will be called "woman," for she was taken from man. 24 This is why a man leaves his father and mother and bonds with his wife, and they become one flesh. 25 Both the man and his wife were naked, yet felt no shame.

Read 1 Corinthians 6:18-20

18 Flee sexual immorality! Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the person who is sexually immoral sins against his own body. 19 Don't you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were brought at a price. So glorify God with your body.

Read Genesis 2:22-25 and 1 Corinthians 6:16-20. What do you learn about God's design for sex and relationships from the passage?

LOOK OUT
IDENTIFY THE
RELEVANCE IF GOD'S
WORD IN THE WORLD

Share a few of the common cultural norms that you hear in conversations about sex in our culture. How do those norms align or conflict with what Scripture says about sex?

Think of those norms you just listed. How might our laid-back cultural norms around sex affect people mentally, emotionally, and spiritually?

Have your perceptions about sex and the Bible changed over your life, or even in this week? How?

In his sermon, Eric compared sex to fire because it is powerful and can bless or hurt people. Like with fire, it is important for us to put boundaries around sex so that it doesn't burn down our lives. How do we practically do this?