

WEEK 3: GOD'S PLAN FOR SEX... REWARDS AND CONSEQUENCES

TODAY'S QUESTIONS

A. GOD'S PLAN FOR SEX

1. Why did God give us sex?
2. If (God) knew people would abuse and use (sex) in an ungodly way, why did (he) create it?
3. In what ways does sexuality relate to our beliefs or biblical scripture/religion?
- (4. *Just because I say a boy is cute does not mean I like him.*)

B. WAITING

1. Why should we wait until we're married to have sex?
2. Why is sex before marriage so bad?
3. Is it ok to have sex when you're engaged?
4. Why do we have to wait? Does God say to? (SATAN – Gen. 3:1)

C. HOW FAR IS TOO FAR?

1. Is it wrong to do everything but sex?

D. TEMPTATION, HORMONES, & RESPONSIBILITY (Today, we'll tell you why you have the temptations. Next week, we'll answer the questions about how to avoid it and how to beat it.)

1. Why do we have temptations?
2. Why is the temptation of sex put in our lives?
3. Why is the temptation of sex so hard to resist?
4. Why do you have feelings to have sex even before you're married?
5. Why is there so much responsibility?
6. Why did God make sexual temptation?

E. CONSEQUENCES

1. I've heard about getting the Gardasil shot for preventing cervical cancer (from t.v. and from friends), but I've never actually heard of someone getting cervical cancer. Is that really such a big risk?

F. FORGIVENESS (leads into Game Plan!)

1. If you have done things that make you impure, and you know it's wrong but you can't bring yourself to give it up. How can you make that problem go away?

I. 16 QUESTIONS – KEEP ASKING!

* We are going to answer 16 of your **questions** today, but first – we want to **thank you** for asking them. From the bottom of our hearts, Christi and I are grateful for your **honest and open questions**. We know these are not questions you would be **as** willing to ask your parents, your coaches, or even us if we were face to face while you were asking them.

* But we BEG you to **keep asking** questions. Long after this series is over, find a way to ask. If we have to put an **anonymous box** in here somewhere, we'll do that. But after we stop teaching you, you will have to give us some way to get answers back to you. We want this to turn into an **open conversation**. We want you to feel comfortable asking us anything, even to our faces.

* **DO NOT BE ASHAMED TO TALK ABOUT SEX! DO NOT BE ASHAMED OF WHAT YOU ARE FEELING!!** THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH WHAT YOU ARE FEELING AND THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH TALKING ABOUT IT.

* **SATAN WANTS YOU TO BE AFRAID.** HE DOESN'T WANT YOU TO ASK QUESTIONS AND DISCOVER THE TRUTH. HE DOESN'T WANT YOU TO GET HELP! SATAN WANTS TO TURN YOUR FEAR AND SHAME INTO REGRET AND GUILT. HE LOVES IT WHEN WE ARE **TOO SCARED TO ASK A QUESTION AND THEN WE MESS UP** BECAUSE WE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT ELSE TO DO!! **DON'T LET HIM WIN!**

* **WE WILL NOT JUDGE YOU!** WE ARE COMING TO YOU AS TWO PEOPLE WHO ADMIT THAT **WE DID IT WRONG** AND HAVE **SUFFERED FROM OUR MISTAKES!** WE WANT MORE FOR YOU! YOU CAN TELL US OR ASK US ANYTHING AND **YOU WILL BE SAFE WITH US!** THIS IS THE MOST **IMPORTANT AND MOST DIFFICULT** STRUGGLE YOU WILL FACE AT THIS STAGE IN YOUR LIFE. **PLEASE LET US HELP YOU!**

*OK – To the questions... 6 categories

II. GOD'S PLAN FOR SEX

Questions from the girls...

1. Why did God give us sex?
2. If (God) knew people would abuse and use (sex) in an ungodly way, why did (he) create it?
3. In what ways does sexuality relate to our beliefs or biblical scripture/religion?

A. Let's hit the Bible to find out God's plan for sex...

Question 1. Why did God give us sex? 5 reasons...

***1* God created sex for procreation (making babies) –**

- Genesis 1: 27-28: *"So God created man in his own image, male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, **"Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it."***

- God created sex in order to populate the world and to keep it populated.

***2* God created sex to strengthen and protect marriage -**

- 1 Cor. 7:2-5: *"...each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. **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. **Do not deprive each other** except by mutual consent and only for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then **come together again** so that **Satan will not tempt you** because of your lack of self-control."*

- In other words, have sex with your husband often so that you and your husband will be safe from Satan's temptations to satisfy your sexual desires with someone else. **Sex w/husband protects marriage & makes it stronger.**

- BTW... Does it say anything in there about your body belonging to your boyfriend or your fiancé? No! Who does it belong to? **YOU and your HUSBAND!**

***3* God created sex for intimacy, closeness, and enjoyment with spouse -**

- Proverbs 5:18-19: *"May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth... may her breasts satisfy you always, may you forever be captivated by her love."*

- Again – wife, not girlfriend. Keep your boobs to yourself –save them for husband.

- Song of Songs 4:9-16: *"You have stolen my heart, my sister, my bride; you have stolen my heart with one glance of your eyes... How delightful is your love, my sister, my bride... Your lips drop sweetness as the honeycomb, my bride; milk and honey are under your tongue. You are a garden locked up, my sister, my bride... Your plants are an orchard of choice fruits."*

And the bride replies, "Let my lover come into his garden and taste its choice fruits."

- That's beautiful and poetic, but what does it mean?

- Why does the husband say that she is a garden locked up? What is the garden? Think of your body as a beautiful garden. Close your eyes and picture a the most beautiful garden that you can imagine – flowers, trees, maybe a path to walk along, and a bench to sit on – maybe some roses and butterflies.

- Then a man walks into your garden... and in one spot, he can sit and talk with you, look in your eyes, and maybe hold your hand. In another spot, he can hug you or put his arm around you while you watch a movie on the big screen tv in the middle of your garden. In another spot he can touch your cheeks, and pull you close to him, and he can kiss your soft lips – remember that your lips are dripping with sweet honey. So, each act of intimacy has its own place in your garden.

- But her garden is locked up. Her garden is pure. No man has come in and contaminated her garden. Her garden is still beautiful and strong and untainted. Even her husband cannot enter without an invitation.

- And, so, she invites him in: "Let my lover come into **his** garden and taste its choice fruits." Open your eyes.

- Whose garden is it now? HIS garden. Once she invites him in, the garden becomes his. It is her gift to her husband.

- Your body is such a beautiful gift for your husband when no other man has entered the garden and stomped along your path or tasted your choice fruits.

- God wants you to protect your garden so that only your husband gets to enter and enjoy what he finds there.

***4* God created sex to set marriage apart from all other relationships by bonding husband and wife into one flesh –**

- Genesis 2:24, Mark 10:7-8, & Eph. 5:31 – *"a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the 2 shall become **one flesh**."*

- Notice the order: He leaves his mom and dad and is united as one flesh with WHOM?? Girlfriend? Fiancé? NO – WIFE!

- Step 1) marriage; Step 2) uniting as one flesh

- SO, if they are already married when they are united as one flesh, then what unites them as one flesh? It is NOT the wedding ceremony – that has already happened! SO – what joins them as one flesh? What creates that bond? SEX!! Need more proof?....

- I Corin. 6:16 – *"Do you not know that he who **unites himself** with a **prostitute** is **one with her** in body? For it is said, 'The two will become one flesh.'"*

- You don't become one flesh with someone when you marry them.

- You become one flesh **through the act of sex** – whether it is with a prostitute, a boyfriend, or a husband.

- And the bond created through sex is **not just a physical bond**. The word used in the Bible for "**flesh**" does not refer to the physical part of man in separation from his spirit or soul. The word "flesh" refers to **man's entire nature**. So, when sex joins a man and a woman as one flesh, they are **one in body, spirit and soul**.

- The bond of one flesh, created through sex, is a sacred bond that God seals and man is not to separate. **Matthew 8-9** goes on to say, "a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the 2 shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no man separate."

- Christi's paper people illustration!

- Do you think God meant for you to share that bond with more than one person?

- The intimacy of sex is what is supposed to set marriage apart from all other relationships on earth.

***5* God created sex so that our marriages would be a reflection of the intimate love Christ has for his people (the church) –**

- Ephesians 25-32 – *"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church... husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies... After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church.... For this reason, a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the 2 shall become one flesh. This is a **profound mystery** – but I am talking about **Christ and the church**."*

*- The intimacy of **the sexual marriage** relationship is the **closest thing we have** on earth to represent God's **powerful, personal, & intimate** love for us.*

*-Something wonderful and **mysterious** happens when sex is used as it was designed to be used – within marriage. Joy, healing, bonding, exchange of love, physical ecstasy....it cannot really be explained. It is very much a **threat** to Satan. His goal is to keep married people **out of the bed** together. He does this by tempting unmarried people to get **into bed** together.*

Question 2. If (God) knew people would abuse and use (sex) in an ungodly way, why did (he) create it?

* There is one reason that God created sex that I saved for this question. It is the reason behind all the other reasons. See if you can guess it...

* **Why does God want us to:**

- populate the earth?
- have strong marriages – protected from Satan’s influence?
- enjoy an intimate connection with our husband
- have a relationship with our husband that is different from all other relationships – one that would represent HIS love for us??

* **WHY? BECAUSE HE LOVES US!! He wants us to have something on earth that can give us just a glimpse of the power of his love for us.**

* And, **YES, He knew we would screw it up.** He knew we would sin and abuse his gift. And yet, he loves us so much that he gave us the gift of sex anyway. He must think that it’s pretty important.

* **But there is more to God’s love...** He gave us **sex** because he loves us. He gave us **Jesus** because he knew we would screw it up. He gave us Jesus because, on our own, we screw up everything.

Question 3. In what ways does sexuality relate to our beliefs or biblical scripture/religion?

* **SEXUALITY** = “concern with or interest in sexual activity; the state of being sexual”

* Being sexual (interested in having sex) has everything to do with our religious beliefs and biblical scripture, **starting with Creation.** If you believe that God created you, then you believe that He made you into the sexual being that you are – and that He gave you the **hormones** necessary for you to **want, need, and enjoy sex.** PERIOD. God doesn’t make mistakes.

- If God had not made us to be interested in sex, the human population would have died out long ago. Our existence **depends** on our sexuality.

Question 4. One of you made the following statement...

Just because I say a boy is cute does not mean I like him. TRUE –

God gives us the great gift of being attracted to the opposite sex, all for the purpose of finding the one with whom we will want to mate. You will be attracted to many boys before you find the one you like. But, remember, save your garden for your husband.

-OK – Now that we know God’s plan for sex, and why He created it, let’s move on to the 2nd set of questions.

- These questions are all about **waiting.**

II. WAITING

Questions from the girls...

1. Why should we wait until we're married to have sex?
2. Why is sex before marriage so bad?
3. Is it ok to have sex when you're engaged?

* After reading these questions, Christi and I want to **apologize** for assuming that you would already know that staying pure until marriage is the right thing to do.

* The world's influence is so strong that even the truth that sex should be reserved for marriage has been clouded.

4. One of you asked, "Why do we have to wait? Does God say to?"

Do you want to know what that question reminds me of – those 4 words "Does God say to?" It reminds me of the Devil himself when he was trying to tempt Eve. Eve had NEVER doubted God's words before. And the first thing Satan did was to get her to doubt what God had said to her.... **Genesis 3:1** – "Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, '**DID GOD REALLY SAY...?**'"

* **Satan will deceive you** into doubting the truth of God's word, just like he deceived Eve. He already has deceived you, or you wouldn't be asking these questions. So, again, thank you for asking them. Through your questions, we are exposing Satan's lies.

* **Let me ask you:** Knowing what we know now about **why** God created sex, can you tell me whether or not we should have sex before we are married? Did God make his **intentions clear?**

* So far, we've only talked about the good things about sex in marriage. We haven't even gotten into any of the verses that condemn sexual impurity outside of marriage. We'll get to some of those in a minute. But I hope you are already convinced that sex was meant for husband & wife. If not, keep listening.

* Besides being what God wants and what He intended, we will also tell you many more reasons why (1) "we should wait until we are married to have sex" and (2) why "sex before marriage is so bad." But first,...

*** QUESTION 3. Is it ok to have sex when you're engaged?**

- I hope that we are clear on this. The answer is NO. It's simple. When you are engaged, you are not yet married. Sex is for marriage.

- Nicole's 2 friends:

- One was engaged and her fiancé was killed.

- One dated a guy for 5 years, planned to marry him, but didn't.

- Both of these girls are living with the **consequences of believing Satan's lie** that they were "**close enough**" to marriage. They both thought, "this is the guy I'm going to marry, so **what difference does the ceremony make?**"

- **It makes all the difference...** until he is your husband in marriage – he is not your husband. The scripture that is repeated so many times says that the man is united to his **WIFE** as one flesh– no one else!

* **Before I get to the next question, I want to ask you something...**

* Think of everything that I have shared about myself so far.

- I told you, in week 1, that I didn't know what to do with the "**electric currents**" of desire when I first felt them. Maybe, someday, I'll tell you what I did do.

- I shared some of my **struggles with my self-worth and my self-image**.

- I told you how I used to try to find **happiness in people**, instead of in God.

- You know that it took **13 years** for Bret and I to discover the marriage that God intended for us to have.

- And, today, I openly admitted that **I did this purity thing wrong** and that I want more for you.

* Knowing all of that, do you have any thoughts about whether or not I was a virgin when I got married?

* OK - DON'T ANSWER THAT... JUST LISTEN TO THE NEXT QUESTION...

III. HOW FAR IS TOO FAR?

One of you asked.... Is it wrong to do everything but sex?

- **This** is my story. I believed Satan's lie that as long as I didn't have "sex"-meaning intercourse – then I would be just fine. Clearly, I was **NOT** just fine. Technically, I was a "virgin," when I got married, but I was far from pure.

- **Danny** has a great way of making this point. He says, "**Don't see how close you can get to the edge of that cliff – see how far away from it you can stay.**"

- I'm here to tell you to **RUN SCREAMING AWAY FROM THE EDGE!** I collected a lot of baggage during the **11 years** that I spent in relationships with countless boys before I got married. It took 13 years of marriage to finally be free of all of that baggage. That is my story. **Do you want that story?**

- I hope you want a better story. I want a better story for you – and for your husband. **My poor husband** walked into a garden that had been **trampled** on by many men. There was only one little spot in the far back corner of my garden that had never been touched – just **one little spot** that Bret can claim as his alone. And if God hadn't put **angels with swords of fire** in front of that spot... it would have been taken too. Maybe I'll get to share that story with you some other time.

- Christi has a great way of driving home the truth about "everything but sex"...

- **Anything** you do with a guy that is intended to **satisfy the desire** for sexual pleasure is impure when done outside of marriage. Like intercourse, the pleasure of exploring each other's bodies is reserved for married couples. **Don't give away your mystery! Let your husband discover it first.**

- **Girls today face problems that were not part of the world when we were your age. Phone sex, chat sex, and sexting** are all substitutes for the real thing. Again, **ANYTHING** that is meant to satisfy a sexual desire should be reserved for marriage.

- **How far is too far?** Anything that gets you – or someone else - aroused to the point of being desperate for more is **WAY TOO FAR!!** Don't let it get to that point.

-There is a line you cross while "making out" and once you've crossed it, **your mind is no longer calling the shots**. Your body is. Your senses scream for more and they WILL win. This is dangerous territory. It's hard... nearly impossible to pull yourself back. **God made us that way** so we could lose ourselves in pouring out physical love with our spouse. A **guy crosses that line** well before you do. This happens while kissing usually. If you wouldn't kiss your boyfriend in front of your parents a certain way, you shouldn't kiss him that way when you're alone either.

- **Romans 6:12-14** - "... do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. Do not let **ANY PART** of your body become an **instrument of evil** to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves **completely** to God, for you were **dead**, but now you have **NEW life**. So use your **WHOLE body** as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God. **Sin is no longer your master!!**"

- Girls, protect your **entire body** from being involved in sex... not just certain key parts. And **NEVER** use your body as an "instrument of evil" to lure someone else into sin. **When you cause a boy to sin** because of your actions, how you dress, your words, something you texted him, or because he saw pictures of you, then **you are doing Satan's work** for him. Don't be Satan's instrument of evil and temptation for those boys.

* **DOES THIS SEEM UNFAIR? HARSH? IS GOD HOLDING OUT ON US BY WANTING US TO WAIT?** Hold onto that thought.

4th set of questions... I call this set:

IV. TEMPTATION, HORMONES, RESPONSIBILITY, & LIES

(Today, we'll tell you why you have the temptations. Next week, we'll answer the questions about how to avoid it and how to beat it.)

1. Why do we have temptations?
2. Why is the temptation of sex put in our lives?
3. Why is the temptation of sex so hard to resist?
4. Why do you have feelings to have sex even before you're married?
5. Why did God make sexual temptation?
6. Why is there so much responsibility?

A. Long wait time – societal changes

* One of the reasons that it is so hard and there is **so much responsibility** for us is that the **wait-time between puberty and marriage** is so much longer than it used to be. Girls have always reached puberty at around the same time that we do... but girls used to get married and have children at 14, 15, or even younger.

* Mary was a young teenager when Jesus was born. In early American times, girls got married and left home to start families and run farms with their husbands.

* **Societal changes** have pushed marriage age to later. Now, we go to school and college and get jobs before we get married. So, we are dealing with raging hormones for a long time between puberty and marriage.

- **But – God's plan has not changed.**

B. God's plan has not changed

* It may be harder now, but **nothing is impossible**. God knows the new challenges we face; and his expectations, promises, and constant help are still the same. **We have changed but he never will.**

* **Psalm 33:11** - *"The Lord's plans stand firm forever; His intentions can never be shaken."*

- God's **plan is unchangeable**. It existed at the beginning of creation and remains the same today. And **you are part of His plan!**

* **Ephesians 2:10** - *"We are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so that we can do the good things He planned for us long ago."*

- The plan God had at the beginning of time is the same plan He has for you.

* Because of God's unchangeable ways, we can be sure of His constant guidance.

Psalm 46:1 - *"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in times of trouble."*

- He is here to help us, no matter what kind of trouble we face!

* **Psalm 18:30** - *"As for God, His way is perfect. All the Lord's promises prove true."*

- God's principles for life never change. If we follow his guidelines, given in Scripture, we WILL be blessed. **HIS way is perfect** - OUR way is NOT!

* **Hebrews 13:8** - *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever."*

(<http://www.discovergod.com/character13.html> "GOD NEVER CHANGES")

C. God made sex. Satan made sexual temptation.

* God made us the way He made us - to be sexual beings - with the hormones necessary to desire sex. **God created sex, but the temptation came with the Devil and the fall of man.**

* Satan messed up God's wonderful plan for us. God gave the gift and the guidelines for enjoying it. We have temptation because the Devil wants to weaken and contaminate God's gift... Remember our definition of **purity**? ("free from anything that weakens or pollutes; untainted")

* **God wants us to enjoy pure love and sex** with our husbands. Satan wants to destroy the purity of love and sex by tempting us with ungodly sexual relationships, meaning any sexual relationship outside of marriage.

D. Satan's Lies & God's Truths

* The temptation of sex is hard to resist because we're made to want to do it. It's very satisfying and fun. God wanted it to be. It's also hard to resist because Satan's influence is so strong. His lies are everywhere.

LIE: "Did God really say..."

TRUTH: YES, HE REALLY DID SAY IT! Don't let the world make you doubt what scripture says. When Jesus was praying for his disciples, he said, "**They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.**" (**John 17:16-17**) Believe God's truth, not the lies of the world.

LIE: When you are engaged, or you plan to get engaged to someone, that is close enough to marriage. It's ok to have sex then.

TRUTH: Until he is your husband in marriage – he is not your husband. Sexual pleasures – of any kind - are for husband and wife.

LIE: You are still pure as long as you don't have sex. Everything else is just fine.

TRUTH: Purity goes deeper than virginity. Anything you do with a guy that is intended to satisfy the desire for sexual pleasure is impure when done outside of marriage. Think about your garden and how you want it to look for your husband.

***LIE:** Satan will use your God-given desires to tell you that it is okay, natural, and right to show your love for others with your body. He says that you should give yourself and your body to others in order to prove your love.*

***TRUTH:** God wants you to enjoy an **amazing, pure, strong untainted sex life** with your husband. And God's glorious plan for your **amazing marriage** and your intensely **passionate sex life** with your husband **does not include the memories** of a bunch of other guys jumping into bed with you.*

** And you don't have to have sex with other guys for their memories to affect your marriage. God doesn't want **anything** to taint what he plans for you and your husband. He doesn't want a bunch of **baggage** to distract you from your husband's love. **BUT SATAN DOES!***

LIE: Satan wants you to believe that what you do now will not affect your future.

TRUTH: The choices you make now will **absolutely** affect your future – and, not only yours, but your husband's and, quite possibly, your children's also.

* God wants your marriage to be filled with great sex and amazing love. But if you don't follow his instructions, there will be **natural consequences** to face...

- There are spiritual, emotional, and physical consequences.

V. CONSEQUENCES

A. Spiritual Consequences

* **Isaiah 59:2** – “your iniquities (sins) have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you.”

** All sin separates us from God. All sin can be forgiven. But sexual sin is set apart from other sins in the Bible.*

* **1 Corinthians 6:18-20** – “Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside his body, but the sexually immoral person 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, for you were bought at a price. Therefore, **honor God** with your body.”-

* **I Corinthians 6:13** – “The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.” *What does that mean?*

*- Your body was created for the Lord - to be a house for The Holy Spirit And the Lord was meant for your body. The purpose of the Holy Spirit is to live in you and "be with you forever" – **John 14:16**. We treat our bodies casually, but **to God, our bodies are sacred and holy!***

- When you defile (or contaminate) God's house by using your body in a way that he did not intend, you are **sinning a personal sin against yourself & against God**. It is a sin, like all other sins, separating you from God. It is a sin, like all other sins, and it can be forgiven. But it is **different from all other sins**, in that you will carry some of the consequences of that sin with you for the rest of your life. **You cannot get away from your own body.**

- The **wounds** of sexual sin can heal – but the **scars** often do not disappear.

B. Emotional Scars

* **Self-esteem issues** – You can't help but wonder if he loves you for you or for what you give him. After all, if he loved you, wouldn't he want to protect you?

* **Baggage** – All of the baggage you collect from what you do with all the boys that you date **WILL affect** your relationship with your husband.

- Remember the **paper people** – you bring your past into your present & future.

- You are **giving away the gift** God wants you to save for your husband – whether you are giving just pieces of the gift, or the whole prize – you can't get it back.

Once you give some part of yourself away – that part will never belong to **ONLY** your husband.

- **Decide now...**What will you save for your husband? I wish I had saved more for mine. Sex with my husband is **so special** because that is **only his**. We have only been sealed as one flesh with each other. But he has to **share the rest of me** with all the men who took a piece before him. That is a sad thing. And what makes it even worse is all the memories I have of all those other guys. We call these memories the "Highlight Reel of Shame."

* **Highlight Reel of Shame** – Images will return. Memories will return. Thoughts and feelings will return. Satan will use all of these things to distract you from your husband's love, to try to lure you away from your husband, and to try to cause conflict in your marriage. **BUT – Victory is coming next week... We'll tell you how to lose the baggage and defeat the images.**

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

- Marriage should be honored by **ALL** people – not just married people. Keep your marriage bed pure (untainted by memories) starting now.

- We've talked about **spiritual and emotional consequences** for not following God's plan. Let's talk about physical scars. What can happen if you have sex?

C. Physical Consequences

* **Pregnancy** - or constant fear of becoming pregnant, abortion, trouble with pregnancy once you're married- babies lost or inability to conceive (Christi's friend)

* **Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), surgeries, possibility of transferring disease to future husband and children (STD's can be passed to babies during birth).**

* **You don't have to have actual intercourse to contract or spread STD's.**

- **STD** = a disease that is "transmitted from one person to another during sexual **CONTACT**" (cut on hand, mouth – any opening in skin)

- **Again, BAGGAGE! All kinds of BAGGAGE!**

Question: I've heard about getting the Gardasil shot for preventing cervical cancer (from t.v. and from friends), but I've never actually heard of someone getting cervical cancer. Is that really such a big risk?

* I Googled "cervical cancer – causes" and found out that the 2 most **significant causes** for cervical cancer are **sexual habits/history** and **Human Papillomavirus** (known as HPV), which is an STD.
(http://www.ehealthmd.com/library/cervicalcancer/cc_causes.html)

How can your sexual habits cause cancer?

-QUOTE: "A WOMAN HAS A HIGHER THAN AVERAGE RISK OF DEVELOPING CERVICAL CANCER IF SHE

- 1) Has had multiple sexual partners; or
 - 2) Began having sexual relations before the age of 18; or
 - 3) Has a partner who has had sexual contact with a woman with cervical cancer"
- (In other words, if you have sexual contact with a boy who has had sexual contact with a woman who has cervical cancer, you could get cervical cancer. Same with any STD. **Choose your man carefully.** Every woman he has ever been with comes to bed with him.

- PICTURES OF NORMAL CERVIX AND CERVIX WITH CARCINOMA

As if having an STD isn't bad enough, HPV can also lead to cancer.

- THERE ARE **46 TYPES OF HPV**. SOME OF THESE 46 INCREASE THE RISK OF ABNORMAL CELL GROWTH, which can lead to CERVICAL CANCER. OTHER TYPES OF HPV PRODUCE GENITAL WARTS (RAISED OR BUMPY LESIONS ON YOUR GENITALS)

- PICTURES of genital warts

- "Female genital warts is the **most widely spread** sexually transmitted disease among women. There is an estimated number of **20 million** Americans who are infected by this virus. About **5.6 million new infections** are declared each year in the US." (<http://hubpages.com/hub/Female-genital-warts>)

- INTERESTING FACT: "...the first signs of genital warts and other symptoms only start to appear after a couple of months or even years following the infection." ONE NIGHT AND YOUR LIFE IS CHANGED – BUT YOU MAY NOT EVEN KNOW IT HAPPENED UNTIL YEARS LATER. SEXUAL CONTACT WITH MULTIPLE PARTNERS – THINK OF THE INCREASED CHANCE! AND YOU WON'T EVEN KNOW WHO INFECTED YOU OR WHO YOU INFECTED AFTER YOU WERE EXPOSED!

- The symptoms of female genital warts: Female genital warts are pinkish, reddish or grey swellings of the skin that grow **ON AND IN your private parts...** from **front to back and in between** (vulva - external, vagina, the area between vulva and anus and even in the anus). They can also grow inside the **uterus (womb)**. These swellings grow to form **clusters** that take on a **cauliflower shape**
- These warts can also cause **burning, itching and bleeding.**

*** BTW- There is *no cure* for this! Once you have these warts – you always have them. When they flare up, you *cannot be intimate* with your husband. This consequence will *affect your marriage FOREVER!***

* **Romans 6:23** says that the wages of sin is death.
- Sexual sin can bring death to you spiritually, death to your dreams (especially if you become pregnant), death to important relationships, and possibly physical, LIFE LONG sickness or even death (STDs, cervical cancer). It's serious business.

SO – back to the question we asked a while back...

* **DOES IT SEEM UNFAIR that God wants to keep us from having sex before marriage? IS GOD HOLDING OUT ON US BY WANTING US TO WAIT?**

* **NO!** – He is **not holding out** on us... He is **protecting** us from all of the consequences. **God's plan protects us** from the spiritual, emotional, and physical scars that come when we do things **OUR way, the WORLD'S way, SATAN'S way – instead of GOD'S way!**

* **Deut. 6:1-3:** "These are the commands... the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe...so that you, your children, and their children after them may fear the Lord..., and so that you may enjoy long life... be careful to obey so that **IT MAY GO WELL WITH YOU...**"

* **Deut. 32:46-47:** "Take to heart all the words I have solemnly declared to you this day, so that you may command your children to obey carefully all the words of this law. They are not just idle words for you – **THEY ARE YOUR LIFE.**"

* **Psalm 34:10:** "...those who seek the Lord lack no good thing."

VII. REWARDS

* *We have already talked about many of the wonderful things we enjoy, just knowing why God created sex. (Babies, strong marriages, intimate connection with husband, special relationship with husband that reflects God's love for us.)*

* *Here are just a few more rewards for saving yourself for your husband...*

A) Physical – healthy bodies, no fear of STD's, having a baby with the one man you love most in the world – ENJOY SEX!! No cauliflower warts to get in the way!

B) Emotional – no guilt, no memories of past lovers to taunt you, no unhealthy strong attachments to guys you will not end up marrying. Full focus on husband – no distractions or competition or comparison. You will have a positive self-esteem and you will never have to wonder why a guy is dating you.

C) Spiritual – intimate relationship with God, blessings abounding, strong friendships, God-centered marriage, PEACE, you leave a great legacy of purity for your own children, more enjoyable sex with your husband.

* *Do it God's way. It seems like the hard way right now, but the world's way doesn't pay off. In the end, the world's way is the hard way.*

* *Satan's desire is to have you – to control your actions – to use your body for sin. Don't let him have you! Do this God's way, not Satan's.*

GLOVES AND CANDY ILLUSTRATION

* **We have one last question to answer for today, & it is about forgiveness.**

1. If you have done things that make you impure, and you know it's wrong but you can't bring yourself to give it up. How can you make that problem go away?

VIII. REDEMPTION FOR THE LOST - FORGIVENESS

* Remember, even if you have already given yourself completely or partially to another, or if you've done things that you realize now were wrong... it's NOT over for you. Purity CAN be restored. You may have scars – but the wounds CAN be healed with God's help. God WILL forgive you. You CAN make a new start.

- That is called **grace – and Jesus offers it freely!**

* **Christi – John 4:7-42 – Woman at the well**

- No Jew would speak to her because she was a Samaritan and because of her reputation. He sat down with her and offered her **living water**. He thought she was worth it when everyone else had written her off.

* **Nicole – John 8: 3-11– Adulterous Woman**

- A woman who had been caught in sexual sin was brought before Jesus. She was to be stoned to death as punishment for her sin. But Jesus said, **"If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her."** (v.7)

- Of course, everyone left. This woman was impure, but Jesus forgave her and gave her **new life**... He saved her physically and spiritually that day. And he will do the same for you!

- **V.10&11 are crucial** – Jesus said, "Has no one condemned you?... Neither do I condemn you...Go now and **leave your life of sin.**" Jesus will not condemn you, but he expects a change in your life. You must turn from your sin & leave it behind.

* **I Peter 1:14-16**(NLT) – "live as God's obedient children. Don't slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn't know any better then. But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy"

- **We have told you to the truth, so now you cannot say, "I didn't know."** verse? Now that you know the truth, you must live by what you have learned.

PURITY CAN BE RESTORED...

* **I John 1:9** - "If we **confess** our sins, he is faithful and just and will **forgive** us our sins and **purify** us from all unrighteousness."

- **confess -> forgiven -> purity restored** - and God is thrilled to forgive!...

* **Luke 15:7** – "there will be more rejoicing in Heaven over one sinner who repents than over 99 righteous people who do not need to repent."

Nicole read Romans 6:19-23 – v.21: "What did you gain by doing those things?"

** **BE BRAVE!!!** We're asking you to look completely different from the rest of the world, American culture and even all your friends. This will take some courage and resolve.*

We're going to pray in just a second. And anyone who needs to be cleansed of past actions – listen to my words and pray them for yourself. God will hear the cry of your heart and he will rejoice in forgiving you.

*** Pray over the girls** – cleanse us! Strengthen us!

- **Psalm 51:1,7-10** - "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love. According to your great compassion, blot out my transgressions...Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Hide your face from my sins and remove the stain of my guilt. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me."

- Father, we thank you for the desires you created for us to feel. We recognize that you have a plan for our sexual desires. Help us to remember that your plan is perfect.

- Lord, strengthen these girls. Help them to focus their desires and eagerly anticipate pouring those desires out on their husbands – the husbands that you have already chosen for them.

- Father, you made our bodies to be a house for your Spirit. Cleanse us now and keep us pure, so that the home we have for you would not be contaminated by our sinful desires.

- Forgive us, heal us, strengthen us. Make us brave, Father.

- Thank you for loving us through it all.

- In the name of the One who is mighty to save. Amen.

** **Offer ourselves for further discussion and/or mentoring.***

- If you are ready to make a change, but you need some help, stay with us. We will wait here for about 15 minutes. If you want to come back after everyone is gone – do it. If you can't do that – PLEASE contact one of us this week.

Introduction of Week 4 – The Game Plan

How do we succeed in a world that fights us every step of the way?