

“THE TALK”

FOUNDATIONS OF BIBLICAL SEXUALITY IN A CONFUSED CULTURE

SESSION 1

4 “HEAR, O ISRAEL: THE LORD OUR GOD, THE LORD IS ONE. 5 YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT”

Deuteronomy 6:4–5 (SHEMA)

SHEMA "LISTEN"

- ▶ Not just "hear" or "listen" -
- ▶ To allow the truth of Gods word to sink into our hearts
- ▶ Deep understanding that generates action and response
- ▶ Submission the authority of Gods will in our lives

THE LORD OUR GOD

- ▶ Two names for God "Jehovah" & "Elohim"
- ▶ God the creator has authority and control over all things
- ▶ "God is one" unified and singular - not polytheism

LOVE

- ▶ Loyal faithfulness that leads to obedient action

HEART, SOUL AND STRENGTH

- ▶ Heart - center of emotions
- ▶ Soul - center of our existence & identity
- ▶ Strength - center of our actions
- ▶ Jesus adds "mind" (MARK 12:30)
 - ▶ Center of our thoughts

THE SHEMA

- ▶ We are actively listening to God in submission to His authority so that we can by faithful obedience apply His truth in all aspects of our lives
- ▶ If we get this right we live in accordance to God's will
- ▶ If we get this wrong it will effect everything

CULTURAL CONFUSION

- ▶ This is not new

- ▶ Judges 21:25

“In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes”

- ▶ Culture will be against God’s plan

- ▶ 1 John 2:15-17

“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever”

- ▶ John 15:9 (the world will hate you because you don’t love it)

4 AREAS OF CONFUSION

- ▶ Identity
- ▶ Gender
- ▶ Marriage
- ▶ Sexuality

IDENTITY ACCORDING TO CULTURE

- ▶ Defined and by the individual
- ▶ Determined by personal expression
- ▶ Expressive Individualism (Robert Bellah)
You as a individual decide who you are and your greatest purpose in life is expressing that identity
- ▶ A persons happiness is more important than their holiness

IDENTITY ACCORDING TO GOD

- ▶ Defined by God
- ▶ Determined by our expression of Gods will
- ▶ Gal 2:20 (we are alive in Jesus)
- ▶ Ephesians 2:10 (we are Gods creation to do His work)
- ▶ 2 Cor 5:17 (New creation)
- ▶ personal holiness is more important that happiness

GENDER ACCORDING TO CULTURE

- ▶ Defined and assigned by the individual
- ▶ It is fluid (can be changed)
- ▶ It is not specific (can be reinterpreted)
- ▶ culture has rejected a natural or scientific view of gender

GENDER ACCORDING TO GOD

- ▶ Defined and assigned by God
- ▶ It is static (cannot be changed)
- ▶ It is specific (cannot be reinterpreted)
- ▶ Gen 1:26-27
 - ▶ Made in Gods image
 - ▶ Male and Female

MARRIAGE ACCORDING TO CULTURE

- ▶ Cultural contract of commitment
- ▶ Can be changed as that commitment changes
- ▶ Is for anyone
- ▶ Primary purposes
 - ▶ Companionship
 - ▶ Happiness

MARRIAGE ACCORDING TO GOD

- ▶ Created and ordained by God
- ▶ Is for one man and one woman
- ▶ Genesis 2:18-25
- ▶ Purpose
 - ▶ Companionship (not good for man to be alone)
 - ▶ A covenant of love that should reflect Gods love for his church (Eph 5:25)

SEXUALITY ACCORDING TO CULTURE

- ▶ My sexuality is part of my identity
- ▶ Its only purpose is pleasure
- ▶ As long as it is consensual and everyone is old enough anything is okay

SEXUALITY ACCORDING TO GOD

- ▶ Sexuality is part of identity
- ▶ Gods purposes for sex
 - ▶ Consummates and reaffirms the covenant of marriage (Gen 4:1)
 - ▶ Procreation - fill the earth with Gods image bearers (Gen 1:28)
 - ▶ Unique expression of marital love
 - ▶ Pleasure (Song Of Solomon)

BIBLICAL SEXUALITY

- ▶ Sex and sexuality is made by God and is Good
- ▶ Three conditions of biblical sexual expression
 - ▶ Married - only for husbands and wives
 - ▶ Monogamous - only one husband and wife
 - ▶ Heterosexual - only for married man and woman
- ▶ Biblical sex is glorifying to God and is worshipful

**WHAT IS OUR
RESPONSE?**

**TRUTH WITHOUT LOVE IS BRUTALITY,
AND LOVE WITHOUT TRUTH IS
HYPOCRISY.”**

Warren Wiersbe

THE PROPER RESPONSE AS THE CHURCH

- ▶ Things we need to get right
 - ▶ Get Shema right!
 - ▶ Understand that sex is from God and is good when expressed through Gods design
 - ▶ Understand the power of sexual sin (1 Cor 6:18)
 - ▶ Understand the commonality of sexual sin
 - ▶ Understand change starts with me and my family first

THE PROPER RESPONSE AS THE CHURCH

- ▶ Changing church culture
- ▶ Combat a culture of shame
- ▶ Shame leads to silence
- ▶ Open and honest conversations need to happen

THE PROPER RESPONSE TO THE WORLD

- ▶ Start with a relationship with Jesus
- ▶ Respectful and loving
- ▶ Understand the reality of past hurts
- ▶ Remember this is at its foundation an identity issue

TOP 5 RESOURCES

- ▶ Rethinking Sexuality, Gods Design And Why It Matters - Juli Slattery
- ▶ Living In A Gray World, A Christian Teens Guide To Understanding Homosexuality - Preston Sprinkle
- ▶ The Talk Series - Luke Gilkerson (Series for parents to go through w/ students)
- ▶ Good Pictures Bad Pictures, Porn Proofing Todays Young Kids - Kristen Jenson & Debbie Fox
- ▶ Biblical Sexuality Series From Well Fresno - Denny Burk
<https://thewellcommunity.org/podcasts/series/a-biblical-view-of-sexuality>