

GREATNESS

Open The Door 



Holy Sex

September 12, 2021 Message Notes
1 THESSALONIANS 4:3-8

Everyone has an opinion on human sexuality, ranging from discipline and purity to license and anarchy. So much around us claims to know what's best for us, but not all deliver as they promise. How do you know who to believe, trust, or follow?



NOTES

The words *will of God* carry with them the sense of best offer.

“My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to finish His work.”

JOHN 4:34

The will of God is the master key to every other treasure of life, opening the door of opportunity in life here and life beyond.

Other voices from other sources also claim to know what's best for you. But not all deliver as they promise.

How do you know who to believe, who to trust, who to follow?

Everyone's got an opinion on human sexuality, ranging from discipline and purity to license and anarchy.

“We were gentle among you like a mother caring for her little children. We loved you so much...”

1 THESSALONIANS 2:7-8

“You know we dealt with you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting and urging...”

1 THESSALONIANS 2:11

“It is God’s will that you be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality;...”

“...that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen who do not know God;...”

“...and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him.”

“The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.”

“Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who give us his Holy Spirit.”

1 THESSALONIANS 4:3-8

It is God’s will that we be...

- Saved
- Filled with the Holy Spirit



- Sanctified - that we avoid sexual immorality

Don't settle for less than holy sex in your life.

Three Heart Guards:

- **Know God:** His forgiveness and love, the filling of His Spirit.

As you get to know the Lord, his love helps you love yourself and others.

Marriage isn't a cure-all and just because you are married, it doesn't mean you are healthy sexually.

Welcoming God and his 'best offer' is the place to start.

- **Possess your body honorably**

"...learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable."

1 THESSALONIANS 4:4

When the Holy Spirit lives in you, He brings a new sense of value and worth. You start seeing how much you matter and how much other people matter. You see your body and others as treasures of great worth, as temples where God lives.

"...a man shall leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."

MARK 10:7-8

Growth and intimacy is what marriage is all about in body, soul and spirit. They are learned behaviors that improve with practice.

Resource Recommendations for Parents:

"Pure Foundations" Series by Jim Burns

- [God Made Your Body](#) (Ages 3-5)
- [How God Makes Babies](#) (Ages 6-9)
- [Accept Nothing Less: God's Best for Your Body, Mind and Heart](#) (Ages 11 +)
- Teaching Your Children Healthy Sexuality (For Parents & Caregivers)

Is it God's will for me to be married?

Generally speaking, scripture says 'yes', unless God has called you in the gift of celibacy.

God wants his men and women to know the challenge and joy of holy matrimony and the blessings of holy sex.



How will you meet God's choice for you?

Pray, seek, be filled with the Holy Spirit, stay open and listen to God's promptings, be willing to wait on God and willing to step out as he leads.

• **Say “no” to say “yes:** Mind the boundaries.

“...and in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men...”

1 THESSALONIANS 4:6

God will take the avenger role and protect the people he loves.

He wants us to say no to immorality and say yes to experiencing holy sex in our lives.

Jesus knows where we've been, what we've done, and what was done to us. He wants to bring his grace and truth into our sexuality and potential. He welcomes us.

“If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come; the old has gone, the new is here!”

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

In Christ we are covered and made new. Our past doesn't define us, our circumstances don't, our feelings don't, our family dysfunction doesn't, nor the corruption of our culture. We are a new creation in Christ,

“‘Come, let us reason together,’ says the Lord, ‘Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow, though they be red like crimson they shall be like wool.’”

ISAIAH 1:18

The Lord is saying, it doesn't matter how many times you've been stained. I can wash you clean and white as snow.

Following Christ is about fighting for the purity of God's loving desire for your life. It's about grace blowing shame away. It's about Jesus creating a space for healing and freedom for us and our children as we follow God's will together.

It's never too late to take healthy steps forward with Jesus. What's your next step?

