



Pt. 6: Divine Design

We live in a post-Genesis 3 world, which means we suffer from the corruption and distortion of sin — and Jesus knows this well. In fact, one of the primary reasons Jesus came to earth was to reverse the curse of sin and to help us overcome sin's effects, one of which is distortion and confusion about marriage and sexuality. To this end, Jesus points us back to God's original design for us: 'from the beginning it was not so.'

Bottom Line: God created the world and humanity with a specific design.

Discussion Questions:

1. What "ingredients" make for a happy marriage? Whose marriage do you admire the most? What is it about their marriage that makes you admire it?
2. What factors tend to undermine a marriage and make a couple more susceptible to divorce?
3. **Read Matthew 19:3-6.** The Pharisees tried to trap Jesus by baiting Him into contradicting the Old Testament. How did Jesus respond? Now **read Genesis 1:2 & Genesis 2:24.** Why was it important for Jesus to quote from Genesis?
4. What can we learn about marriage and sexuality from Genesis 1 & 2 and from what Jesus said during his ministry?
5. Cartesian dualism believes strongly that the mind and the body are entirely two separate entities - that feelings can exist outside of the acts of the physical body. How does the hookup culture reflect the Cartesian dualism? How does this idea contradict Biblical teaching about sexual intimacy?
6. Young people often think they are rebelling against adult culture when they experiment sexually. But in reality, they are following a script that adult culture is giving them. Why does it take courage to practice chastity today?
7. Why are some people drawn to impersonal sex, whether with another person or through pornography? How would you make a case that the Christian view of sexuality is actually more positive than the secular view?
8. What has been the most helpful thought/idea from the message this week? How has that thought/idea helped you?

*If time doesn't allow for you to discuss all of these questions, use only the ones you feel would be most helpful for your group.