



Navigating Sexual Issues  
with Gospel-Centered Truth

PRESENTED BY

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## PART 1

*Changing how we  
think about sexuality*

4 The Biblical Narrative  
of Sexuality



## KEY TAKEAWAYS

- A list of rules about sexual morality never addresses the “why” questions people have about God and sex. The biblical narrative of sexuality presents the larger story for why sexuality matters to God and why it should also matter for us.
- The biblical narrative of sexuality is rooted in the truth that God intentionally created sexuality to be a metaphor that helps us understand His covenant love. We comprehend more of the spiritual as we experience the physical.
- Just as physical sexual desire causes us to pursue covenant love (marriage), spiritual longings prompt us to pursue spiritual covenant (intimacy with God). In marriage, sexual intimacy is the celebration of covenant. In our covenant with God, we regularly engage in “intercourse” through actions like prayer, worship, and communion, bringing forth life. Just as marriage is an exclusive love relationship, God’s love for us demands exclusive loyalty and attachment.
- Understanding the metaphorical significance of sexuality profoundly changes how we approach every sexual issue.

*Biblical* **NARRATIVE**

Our sexuality is a holy metaphor  
that teaches us about God’s covenant love.



## NOTES



**1** How is spiritual growth and maturity limited if we never address the “why” questions about God and sexuality?

- 2** How have you seen this limitation played out in your own spiritual journey and ministry?

## REFLECTION & DISCUSSION CONTINUED

- Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— for we are members of his body. “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

APPLICATION

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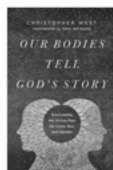
Explain your understanding of the biblical narrative to a fellow Christian leader. Record what you learned through that conversation here.

FOLLOW-UP RESOURCES

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*Rethinking  
Sexuality*  
Chapter 4



*Our Bodies Tell  
God's Story*  
by Christopher West



*Java with Juli*  
#160: Why God Created  
You to Be Sexual



*AuthenticIntimacy.com*  
What's the Purpose of  
Your Sexuality, Really?

*AuthenticIntimacy.com*  
The "Why" for Every  
Sexual Question



SEXUALDISCIPLESHIP.COM