



Designer Sex

1 Corinthians 6:16-20

Message from Pastor Martin Hawley

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Bottom Line: Introduction: Sex. It's a bigger deal than you think. It's a soul thing.

Introduction:

The question that is driving this series is ...

Are you the person you are looking for is looking for?

We talked about love the first week. Week two we spoke about how men should treat the women when they date. That brings us to sex this week.

There is so much unavoidable pain in life; why create unnecessary pain? I'm doing this series because I want you not only to avoid pain, but I want you to have a great marital relationship. It is possible, so listen carefully!

In our society we are taught, and many largely believe and will defend, that sex is only physical.

If sex is only physical then ...

Why is it that when children are sexually abused it is so devastatingly life-shaping?

Why is rape so much more devastating to a woman than simply being pushed around or even beaten up?

Why are sexually abused people so much likelier to abuse sexually? They know the pain better than most. Why would they do it to someone else?

Why can't gay people just decide to be straight? All my gay friends have tried. Why is that so difficult for them?

Why is it that men with the deepest sexual issues usually have uninvolved or missing fathers?

Why are most people's greatest regrets sexual?

Sex: It's not just physical. There is a connection between your sexuality, your sexual behavior, and your soul.

Sex is a fragile connection. It can be damaged. It is difficult to repair. Yet, how does our culture treat it?

Sex is a creation and was created as an expression of intimacy and a vehicle for creation.

Intimacy: to know and be fully known.

1 Corinthians 6:18 (NIV84), "Flee from sexual immorality. **All other sins** a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body."

1 Corinthians 6:16 (NIV84), "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.'"

1 Corinthians 6:19 (NIV84), "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; you were bought at a price. Therefore **honor** God with your **body**."

Objection: Sex is a matter of personal preference: what's right for me versus what's right for you.

If that's the case, why are the consequences predictable?

Sex: It's not a matter of personal preference. It's a matter of divine design.

Myth: Practice makes perfect/better.

Truth: Romance in marriage is fueled by a sense of **exclusivity**.

NEXT WEEK:

The New Rules for Love, Sex & Dating: If I Were You

Prepare to commit, so when you do commit, you will be in a position to keep your commitment.

You can say, “I do.” But you can follow through? A promise—even a promise as big as a wedding vow—doesn’t mean anything without the preparation to back it up. In this message, Pastor has a “to do” list that will prepare you to one day say “I do” and mean it.

*Please note, this message is not appropriate for all ages. Parental guidance is suggested.

Sex doesn’t make for a great relationship.
A great relationship makes for better sex.

Here’s what you should do:

1. Determine the story you want to tell.
2. Decide ahead of time what honoring God with your body looks like.
3. Repent of your past, and trust God with your future.

Giving up something now for something better later is not a **sacrifice**. It’s an **investment**.

Conclusion:

There is a fragile and inextricable link between your sexuality, your sexual behavior, and your soul.

It’s precious. Don’t run the risk of decoupling sex from intimacy. You lose. Your partner loses.

Decide to become the person the person you are looking for is looking for.

NEXT STEPS:

- Memorize: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.**
- Determine the story you want to tell.**
- Decide ahead of time what honoring God with your body looks like.**
- Repent of your past, and trust God with your future.**
- Return for Part 4—*New Rules for Love, Sex, & Dating: If I Were You.***