

# 1. CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY DEFINED

**The image of God is within every human though it is greatly distorted by our sin.**

*"[Provocative art] is as different from pornography as love is from rape, as dignity is from humiliation, as partnership is from slavery, as pleasure is from pain...Blatant or subtle, pornography involves no equal power or mutuality. In fact, much of the tension and drama comes from the clear idea that one person is dominating the other."*

*Gloria Steinem*

Immanuel Kant argued for monogamous relationships within marriage as the only "moral" expression of sexuality.

## **General definition of Christian Sexuality: *Sexuality under the lordship of Jesus Christ***

We are sexual beings made in the image of God.

Our goal is not to deny our sexuality--that would be to deny God's good creation, but to bring it under the lordship of Jesus Christ.

How does our sexuality come under the lordship of Jesus Christ?

# 2. CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY DETAILED

## **Ten Marks of Distinctive Christian Sexuality:**

1. Sex is not evil (Genesis 2:24-25, 9:7)

2. Sex in marriage with one man and one woman is the only blessed sexual activity (Genesis 2:23-24; Hebrews 13:4)
  
3. Adultery is evil (Leviticus 18:20; Exodus 20:14; Deuteronomy 22:22; Hebrews 13:14)
  
4. Same gender sexuality activity is evil (Leviticus 18:22, Romans 1:26,27; 1 Timothy 1:9,10)
  
5. Adultery is committed in the heart first (Matthew 5:27-30)
  
6. Desire is mastered for Christ by the Spirit through self-control (Ezekiel 36:22-32; Matthew 10:38; Luke 14:27; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20, esp. vv15,19,20)
  
7. Non-married Christians are to treat other people as siblings (1 Timothy 5:2)

8. Dress in accord with your moral convictions (1 Timothy 2:9; Matthew 18:7; cf. Luke 17:1; Proverbs 4:26; 5:19 7:10)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. Do not even joke about sexual sin (Ephesians 5:3-5)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. Disobedience will bring destruction and judgment (Revelation 21:8; Proverbs 5:1-14; 6:27-35; 7:1-27; Romans 1:18; 2:1-12; 3:10-12, 23; 5:12-21; 6:23)

### 3. CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY EMPOWERED

*John Owen taught that trying to put our sin and lust to death based on our own human strength is the 'essence and substance of all false religion in the world.' Even a good guideline for fighting lust, if it's 'carried out with man-made schemes, always end in self-righteousness.'*  
*Sex is Not the Problem Lust Is, Joshua Harris p 48*

**We need to be careful that we don't look to our will-power to pursue Christian sexuality.**

The **weaker** among us will fail miserably and be tempted to turn our backs on God because God's ways *don't work*.

The **stronger** among us will succeed and be tempted to turn our backs on God because God isn't necessary.

**We look to Christ Himself in his very person for power to obey.**

*Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

Hebrews 4:14-16

United to Christ's Life

Tempted Yet Without Sin

*I have been crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me.*

Galatians 2:20

*If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.*

Romans 8:11

***Sexuality under the lordship of Jesus Christ***