

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

**Series Title:**



**“What happens when your sexual sin intersects with The Light of the World?”**

The Gospel According to John Ch 8:1-12

January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Intro:** (Huge weed from home illustration) While I was taking down our Christmas lights from around the house the other day, I was removing lights from off of some of the bushes in our flowerbed and noticed this gigantic weed. What amazed me about the weed was that I had just done some yard work about a week earlier and didn't notice it then... it grew that fast.

Imagine that the flowerbed where I found this weed encompasses all that is sex and this weed is a small but ugly hint of sexual immorality in the midst of the entire flowerbed of sex. The goal is to completely uproot the weeds of sexual immorality from our lives.

God created sex. He created sex for reproduction and pleasure... a way to express love between a man and a woman within marriage.

Everyone in this room is sexual... God made us that way... but what does God say about sex...? How are we as Christ Followers to walk in the light with our sexuality? How are you dealing with your sexual past if you have one... and what are the messages that Satan (the great deceiver) has sent into this world to distort the true meaning and purpose of sex?

This message will apply to everyone tonight... Those of you who are like the adulteress woman who have a sexual past... and to those who want to please God with a right understanding of sex.

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

Let's begin tonight as we learn what happens when our sexual sins (and our sexuality as a whole) intersect with The Light of the World (Jesus Christ).

**John 8:1** "But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives."

The name "Jesus" means: "Savior" & "Deliver"  
His full name "Jesus (Savior) Christ (Anointed)"

When Isaiah prophesied on behalf of the Lord, he said...

**Isaiah 60:16 (NKJV)** "You shall know that I, the LORD, *am* your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob."

Tonight, God wants everyone (that's you and me) in the world to know that the Lord Jesus Christ is the one who saves.

### **1. Jesus Christ saves people**

He saves us from our sin, saves us from our own path of self-destruction and gives our lives worth, meaning and purpose...

Before we surrendered our lives to Christ, we were spiritually dead, resulting in eternal separation from God, but by His grace, we have been made alive in Him, resulting in forgiveness of sins and eternal life...

**Philippians 2:9-11 (NKJV)** "Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, (10) that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, (11) and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

There is life-saving power in the name of Jesus Christ... He is the source of all of God's attributes... He is the only way to God... Now with this foundation laid of the power that rests within the sweet name of Jesus, we will better appreciate the radical restoration that Jesus brings to this woman's life...

**John 8:2-3** "At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. (3) The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group..."

Okay, first things first... Do you remember the conversation Jesus had with the Samaritan woman at Jacobs well? (John 4) There is a great similarity with these two scenarios... Now you have to get this tonight... it is essential for your walk with God that you get this principle...

## **2. Sin must be exposed/dealt with/confessed**

This is the first thing that happens with our sexual sins (and any sin) when intersected with Jesus. It (sin) become exposed...

Now, understand this principle... I'm not talking about "exposing" your sin to people so they can all see your dirty laundry... no, I'm talking about healthy confession of the sexual sin you know you've committed. God knows you've committed the sin, but if the enemy can keep you from confession, he is keeping you from freedom.

**1 John 1:9 (NKJV)** "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

When we open our mouths and confess our sins to the Lord, it is a heavenly promise from God, that Jesus will be faithful to forgive that sin and cleanse us from all (not just a little) unrighteousness.

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

Notice back in verse (3) that it was the teachers of the Law and Pharisees who brought this woman before Jesus to be judged... and this is what the Law does...

The Law cross-examines our lives and thus always brings us to the verdict of “guilty”! The Law says, “Look, look at that sin... CONDEMN!”

But Jesus says, “Look, look at my blood that I shed for you... there is no condemnation anymore, rather the choice of the heart to believe in Me and in my power to forgive and experience FREEDOM!”

Now this woman is being brought in and examined because of her sexual sin...

So much of who you are as an individual has to do with who you are sexually. Your sexuality has an effect, perhaps the greatest effect than any other, on how you view your relationship with God and with people... we will touch on that again later...

**\*\*\*3 “straight talk” keys every young adult must know about sex\*\*\***

## **1. God created sex for reproduction and pleasure**

**Psalm 107:3, 5 (NKJV)** “Behold, children *are* a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb *is* a reward. (5) Happy *is* the man who has his quiver full of them; they shall not be ashamed, but shall speak with their enemies in the gate.”

**Song of Solomon 1:2 (NKJV)** “Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth—For your love *is* better than wine.”

## **2. Within God’s boundaries, sex is not bad, dirty, dark, etc.**

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

**Genesis 2:24-25 (NKJV)** “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. (25) And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.”

### **3. Marriage is the only place (i.e. the best place) where it is okay to be sexual.**

**Hebrews 13:4 (NKJV)** “Marriage *is* honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.”

What God says about sex:

“Obey my commands and enjoy my freedom and my blessing.”

Doing sex God’s way results in lifelong enjoyment:

1. The love that is shared between a husband and a wife and parents and children
2. The guiltless freedom that comes from doing sex God’s way... i.e. guiltless sexuality. Complete satisfaction, emotionally, spiritually, and physically. (Nothing outside of God’s plan for sex can provide this)

If you are here tonight and you are wondering if some of things you’ve done in your past are wrong... A one night stand, masturbation, hand jobs, premarital sex, whatever... listen... the question is not “how far can I go?” The question is “At what point does my heart change?”

At what point do I exchange my heart of immorality for a heart of true love and righteousness?

**Ephesians 5:3** “But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.”

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

What Satan says about sex:

“No boundaries, chase the flesh... i.e. worship sex, worship yourself”

If Satan can distort your view of the way God intended sex to be, he has the upper hand in ways he can attack your life... Remember, Satan seeks to communicate a message that is the direct opposite of God’s plan.

(Point #4 is long, but write it all down)

#### **4. Sexual intimacy outside of marriage is:**

1. Disobedient to God
2. Is a physical/spiritual encounter with a person that will ultimately leave you unfulfilled, broken and guilty.

**(Turn to) 1 Corinthians 6:18-20** “Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. (19) 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; (20) **you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.**”

Be encouraged tonight that God has given each one of us the awesome opportunity to honor God with our bodies... this should be a desire of ours...

**John 8: 4-6** “They made her stand before the group (4) and said to Jesus, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. (5) In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” (6) They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.”

Vs. 5) Leviticus chapter 20 along with Deuteronomy chapter 22 are the passages in the Law that cover the rules for punishments of

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sins and Marriage violations... These are the passages that the Pharisees and teachers of the Law were referring to.

**Leviticus 20:10** “If a man commits adultery with another man's wife—with the wife of his neighbor—both the adulterer and the adulteress must be put to death.”

**Deuteronomy 22:22** “If a man is found sleeping with another man's wife, both the man who slept with her and the woman must die. You must purge the evil from Israel.”

The Pharisees and the teachers of the Law tried to set a trap for Jesus... if He would have said to “let her go”, He would have been breaking the Law of Moses... if He would have said to kill her, He would have been breaking Roman law because the Romans had taken away the religious right of the Jews to execute people for religious offenses... but Jesus can't be trapped, it's impossible. He knows how to handle every situation imaginable...

David Guzik: “Did they really execute people for adultery in Israel? It is true that adultery was a capital offense under Jewish law, but the rules for evidence in capital cases were extremely strict. The actual act had to be observed by multiple witnesses who agreed exactly in their testimony. So, as a practical matter, virtually no one was executed for adultery, since this is a private sin.”

Something key in this story to note is that these Pharisees and teachers of the Law obviously cared nothing for this woman... as they were using her as just a weapon to get to Jesus. And not to mention, where is the man? Could he have been one of the teachers of the Law? Possibly...

May we be CF's who are filled with compassion and grace towards others. Always seeking to be honest according to Scripture and

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loving towards people so that in the end, we do not end up like the Pharisees and the teachers of the Law.

Right now, Jesus sees and already knows our sexual past... feelings of brokenness, abuse, abandonment, rejection, guilt, regret, etc... but here is what I want us to do tonight... we are going to intersect our sexuality with Jesus... and allow Him to restore, correct, and forgive tonight. We are going to confess our sexual sins to Him privately and He promises to cleanse us from all unrighteousness...

**John 8:7-9** “When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, **“If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.”** (8) Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. (9) At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there.”

Jesus bent down to write something in the dirt to the teachers of the Law and the Pharisees... we don't know what He wrote. Many believe that He started to list the sins of her accusers one by one from the oldest to the youngest... but we don't know for sure...

Tonight, I want to draw you a little something that the Lord gave me in my journaling time early Sunday morning on December 7<sup>th</sup>...

**Ephesians 5:5** “For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a man is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.”

Did you notice that the immoral (fornicator) and impure person is also an idolater? What does that have to do with our sexuality...?

We have a choice... It has to do with worship...

Q. Do you worship your sexuality... or do you worship God with your sexuality?

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

The issue is sexual immorality and worship... there is a direct correlation between our sexuality and our relationships... with God and with people.

As Chris Tomlin says, "You and I were made to worship" ... If we chose to worship created things (sex) rather than the Creator (the one who created sex) we will receive the due penalty for that perversion... which is the wrath of God.

**(Read aloud): Romans 1:21-32**

When it comes to sexual immorality, as Christians, we often try to deal with the issue like this...

Drawing #1: We address it with compartmentalized thinking:  
(Draw on dry erase board)

Drawing #2: The life of a CF in regards to growing closer to God & the sins of the heart as it pertains to sexual immorality. (Draw on dry erase board)

Lose the idea that sex is bad or naughty (not to mention, that philosophy could really be an issue in your marriage one day if not dealt with now) God created it for enjoyment within the confines of marriage... it was His idea!!!

(Point #5 is long, write it all down)

### **5. Sexual intimacy within Marriage is:**

1. Honoring to God (Because obeying His commands)
2. Holy, sacred, fun, loving, fulfilling, guiltless, hot, enjoyable, intimate, passionate, it's perfect, its God plan!!

**John 8:10-11** "Jesus straightened up and asked her, "**Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?**" (11) "No one, sir," she said. "**Then neither do I condemn you,**" Jesus declared. "**Go now and leave your life of sin.**"

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There was no one left standing there to condemn her... nor was Jesus condemning her.

**Romans 8:1-2** "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, (2) because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death."

**Romans 8:34** "Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us."

Jesus is not condemning us... He's interceding for us!

You can leave here free tonight... just like this woman who was caught in adultery. She walked into the situation guilty and worthy of death, but she will leave forgiven by Jesus Christ. The same can happen for you tonight...

**John 3:17-18** "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. (18) Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son."

It is important that we understand tonight that Jesus was not condoning her sin... but rather He commanded her "Go now and leave your life of sin..."

**John 8:12** "When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

When our sexual sin intersects with the Light of the World... this is what happens... There is no more darkness. And we then have the light of true life living in us.

**6. I can walk in the light, free from sexual sin.**

Darkness cannot be where there is light... it's impossible...

**1 John 1:5 (NKJV)** "This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all."

**Psalms 119:105** "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."

This is why if you are dating an unbeliever, it will not work... it is impossible... light and darkness cannot coexist.

**(Turn to) 2 Corinthians 6:14-18** "Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? (15) What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? (16) What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people."

(17) "Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord.

Touch no unclean thing,  
and I will receive you."

(18) "I will be a Father to you,  
and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

As we leave this place tonight... Worship God with your sexuality... it doesn't matter if you are single, engaged, or married. Allow the light of the Word of God to fill your life everyday and give you the strength to overcome the sins of sexual immorality.

Sometimes we need to be reminded that as we seek to allow God to be our Master we can prevent sin from ruling over us...

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Just before Cain killed his brother Abel, something happened... God and Cain had a talk...

**Genesis 4:6-7** "Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? (7) If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it."

Do not open the door!!! You have the choice to open the door or keep it closed... Do not even "peep hole" the sin...

And the same is true in our lives tonight... sin is crouching at our doors... and it's Satan's goal to destroy our lives and because God made us sexual beings, Satan seeks to distort what God made wonderful and enslave us in the bondage of sexual immorality. As we come to a close tonight, I want to leave you with this last thought and closing verse...

We have a choice to make as we begin 2009... We can live as slaves to sin (sexual immorality) leading to death, or as slaves to Godly obedience (Applying God's Word to my life) leading to righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit? The choice is yours...

**Romans 6:16-18** "Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? (17) But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. (18) You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness."

**Altar Call/Pray:**

**Closing Song:**