# SEX AND THE CHURCH: HAVE WE LOOSENED OUR STANCE AND IS IT PROGRESS?

#### **Colossians 4:5-6**

<sup>5</sup> Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. <sup>6</sup> Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.



IS IT TIME FOR THE CHURCH TO CHANGE?

• Be informed



- Be informed
- Be involved



- Be informed
- Be involved

IS IT TIME FOR THE CHURCH TO CHANGE?

• Be nice

#### God created us to be happy.



God created us to be happy.

#### Our deepest happiness is in relationship with God.



#### Today's Subject: SEX



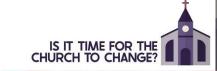
#### The Bachelorette - Hannah B. and Luke P.



#### The Bachelorette - Hannah B. and Luke P. Luke – "Sex outside of marriage is wrong."



#### The Bachelorette - Hannah B. and Luke P. Luke – "Sex outside of marriage is wrong." Hannah – "I have had sex, and honestly, Jesus still loves me."



Sex is a gift God has given us that when misused and abused results in pain and destroys lives, and yet when enjoyed within the parameters of its design produces pleasure and delight.





a) Godless – Biological process



- a) Godless Biological process
- b) Anyone



- a) Godless Biological process
- b) Anyone
- c) Anything



- a) Godless Biological process
- b) Anyone
- c) Anything
- d) Can separate physical and emotional intimacy



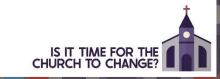
- a) Godless Biological process
- b) Anyone
- c) Anything
- d) Can separate physical and emotional intimacy
- e) Try it out



- a) Godless Biological process
- b) Anyone
- c) Anything
- d) Can separate physical and emotional intimacy
- e) Try it out
- f) To be enjoyed



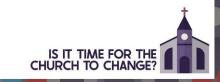
- a) Godless Biological process
- b) Anyone
- c) Anything
- d) Can separate physical and emotional intimacy
- e) Try it out
- f) To be enjoyed
- g) Consenting



- a) Godless Biological process
- b) Anyone
- c) Anything
- d) Can separate physical and emotional intimacy
- e) Try it out
- f) To be enjoyed
- g) Consenting
- h) No liability



- a) Godless Biological process
- b) Anyone
- c) Anything
- d) Can separate physical and emotional intimacy
- e) Try it out
- f) To be enjoyed
- g) Consenting
- h) No liability
  - i. Liberating



- a) Godless Biological process
- b) Anyone
- c) Anything
- d) Can separate physical and emotional intimacy
- e) Try it out
- f) To be enjoyed
- g) Consenting
- h) No liability
  - Liberating
  - ii. Sexually enlightened

- a) Godless Biological process
- b) Anyone
- c) Anything
- d) Can separate physical and emotional intimacy
- e) Try it out
- f) To be enjoyed
- g) Consenting

### h) No liability

- . Liberating
- ii. Sexually enlightened
- iii. Free

- a) Godless Biological process
- b) Anyone
- c) Anything
- d) Can separate physical and emotional intimacy
- e) Try it out
- f) To be enjoyed
- g) Consenting
- h) No liability
- i) Easiest way to intimacy



- a) Godless Biological process
- b) Anyone
- c) Anything
- d) Can separate physical and emotional intimacy
- e) Try it out
- f) To be enjoyed
- g) Consenting
- h) No liability
- i) Easiest way to intimacy
- j) Boundaries are archaic, unhealthy, repressive, anxiety inducing, pleasure decreasing

## Our culture's perspective of God's gift of sex. (Misuse) God's design for His gift of sex.



#### a) God ordained



#### Genesis 2:24

<sup>24</sup> Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.



- a) God ordained
- b) Man and woman



- a) God ordained
- b) Man and woman
- c) Exclusive intimacy



- a) God ordained
- b) Man and woman
- c) Exclusive intimacy
  - i. Emotional



- a) God ordained
- b) Man and woman
- c) Exclusive intimacy
  - i. Emotional
  - ii. Spiritual



- a) God ordained
- b) Man and woman
- c) Exclusive intimacy
  - i. Emotional
  - ii. Spiritual
  - iii. Physical



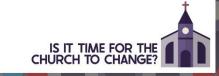
- a) God ordained
- b) Man and woman
- c) Exclusive intimacy

IS IT TIME FOR

d) Produces life

#### 2) God's design for His gift of sex.

- a) God ordained
- b) Man and woman
- c) Exclusive intimacy
- d) Produces life
- e) For life



#### 2) God's design for His gift of sex.

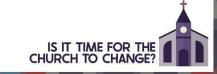
- a) God ordained
- b) Man and woman
- c) Exclusive intimacy

IS IT TIME FOR

- d) Produces life
- e) For life
- f) To be enjoyed

#### 2) God's design for His gift of sex.

- a) God ordained
- b) Man and woman
- c) Exclusive intimacy
- d) Produces life
- e) For life
- f) To be enjoyed
- g) Boundaries are to enhance our enjoyment



#### **Right and Wrong**



Right and Wrong

# Right – Reflects God's character and design and brings us joy.



#### Right and Wrong

Right – Reflects God's character and design and brings us joy.

Wrong – Does NOT reflect God's character and robs us of lasting, deep joy.



- Our culture's perspective of God's gift of sex. (Misuse)
  God's design for His gift of sex.
- The cost of accepting our culture's perspective of sex. (Misuse)

a) Emotional pain



- a) Emotional pain
  - i. Shame rather than happiness



- a) Emotional pain
  - i. Shame rather than happiness
  - ii. Deceit eclipses intimacy



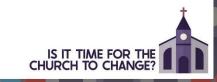
- a) Emotional pain
  - Shame rather than happiness
  - ii. Deceit eclipses intimacy
  - iii. Indifference to feelings and hurt of others



- a) Emotional pain
  - i. Shame rather than happiness
  - ii. Deceit eclipses intimacy
  - iii. Indifference to feelings and hurt of others
  - iv. Forfeit exclusivity of relationship



- a) Emotional pain
  - i. Shame rather than happiness
  - ii. Deceit eclipses intimacy
  - iii. Indifference to feelings and hurt of others
  - iv. Forfeit exclusivity of relationship
  - v. Private, hidden addictions



- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk



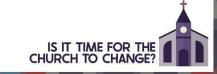
- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk
  - i. Pregnancy



- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk
  - i. Pregnancy
  - ii. STD's



- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk
- c) Cultural costs



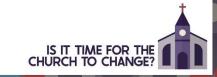
- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk
- c) Cultural costs
  - i. Unrealistic expectations



- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk
- c) Cultural costs
  - . Unrealistic expectations
  - ii. General approved promiscuity



- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk
- c) Cultural costs
  - i. Unrealistic expectations
  - ii. General approved promiscuity
  - iii. Marital destruction



- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk
- c) Cultural costs
  - i. Unrealistic expectations
  - ii. General approved promiscuity
  - iii. Marital destruction
    - 1) Divorce



- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk
- c) Cultural costs
  - . Unrealistic expectations
  - ii. General approved promiscuity
  - iii. Marital destruction
    - 1) Divorce
    - 2) Kids

- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk
- c) Cultural costs
  - . Unrealistic expectations
  - ii. General approved promiscuity
  - iii. Marital destruction
  - iv. Sexual abuse

- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk

### c) Cultural costs

- i. Unrealistic expectations
- ii. General approved promiscuity
- iii. Marital destruction
- iv. Sexual abuse
- v. Sex trafficking



- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk

### c) Cultural costs

- i. Unrealistic expectations
- ii. General approved promiscuity
- iii. Marital destruction
- iv. Sexual abuse
- v. Sex trafficking
  - 1) Approximately 4 million victims globally, 1 million children

IS IT TIME FOR THE

- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk

### c) Cultural costs

- i. Unrealistic expectations
- ii. General approved promiscuity
- iii. Marital destruction
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- v. Sex trafficking
  - 1) Approximately 4 million victims globally, 1 million children
  - 2) Profits \$99 billion

- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk

### c) Cultural costs

- i. Unrealistic expectations
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#### v. Sex trafficking

- 1) Approximately 4 million victims globally, 1 million children
- 2) Profits \$99 billion

3) 50,000 estimated to be trafficked

into the US each year

- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk

#### c) Cultural costs

Unrealistic expectations

1)

2) 3)

- ii. General approved promiscuity
- iii. Marital destruction
- iv. Sexual abuse

#### v. Sex trafficking

- Approximately 4 million victims globally, 1 million children
- Profits \$99 billion
- 50,000 estimated to be trafficked into the US each year
- Average age a teen enters into sex trade in the US is
  12 to 14 years old

- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk
- c) Cultural costs
- d) Spiritual pain



- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk
- c) Cultural costs
- d) Spiritual pain
  - i. Distance from God



- a) Emotional pain
- b) Unnecessary physical risk
- c) Cultural costs
- d) Spiritual pain
  - i. Distance from God
  - ii. Sex displacing God



- 1) Our culture's perspective of God's gift of sex. (Misuse)
- 2) God's design for His gift of sex.
- 3) The cost of accepting our culture's perspective of sex.(Misuse)
- 4) The benefits of embracing God's intent for sex.



## a) Joy that results from living with God's designed boundaries



- a) Joy that results from living with God's designed boundaries
  - i. Gift of exclusivity given



- a) Joy that results from living with God's designed boundaries
  - i. Gift of exclusivity given
  - ii. Gift of exclusivity received



- a) Joy that results from living with God's designed boundaries
  - i. Gift of exclusivity given
  - ii. Gift of exclusivity received
  - iii. Joy of increasing intimacy with your spouse



# 4) The benefits of embracing God's intent for sex.

- a) Joy that results from living with God's designed boundaries
- b) Joy of intimacy with God



"Imagine a world in which everyone followed God's design for sex and marriage: There would be no sexually transmitted diseases. No abortions. No brokenness from divorce. Every child would have a mother and a father and experience the love and acceptance each parent uniquely offers. There would be no rape, no sex abuse, no sex trafficking, no pornography, and no need for a #MeToo campaign. Think of the healing and wholeness if people simply lived Jesus' life-giving words regarding human *sexuality.*" - Sean McDowell from *Chasing Love:* Sex, Love, and Relationships in a Confused Cultures IT TIME FOR THE



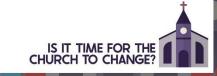
• Talking about sex as a gift of God



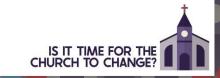
- Talking about sex as a gift of God
- Promoting God's design



- Talking about sex as a gift of God
- Promoting God's design
  - The benefit of boundaries



- Talking about sex as a gift of God
- Promoting God's design
  - The benefit of boundaries
  - Describing the greater, deeper joy



- Talking about sex as a gift of God
- Promoting God's design
- Being appropriately more open about our challenges



- Talking about sex as a gift of God
- Promoting God's design
- Being appropriately more open about our challenges
- Being more aware of the vulnerabilities to abuse



- Talking about sex as a gift of God
- Promoting God's design
- Being appropriately more open about our challenges
- Being more aware of the vulnerabilities to abuse
- Educating our kids lovingly



IS IT TIME FOR THE CHURCH TO CHANGE?

• Recognize where culture's perspective has influenced us.



- Recognize where culture's perspective has influenced us.
- Commit to understanding and pursing God's design.



- Recognize where culture's perspective has influenced us.
- Commit to understanding and pursing God's design.
- Be in relationships to encourage and be encouraged.



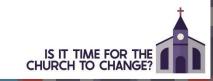
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- Express God's forgiveness where appropriate.



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- Pursue God's design for intimacy. Wholeheartedly.



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- Support organizations committed to helping victims of abuse and human trafficking.