

It's Only Sex!

Our society is saturated with thoughts of sex. The movies and sit-coms tease, flirt and entice with sexual themes. Advertisers know that "Sex Sells." The catalogs from *Victoria's Secret* hides no secrets! Sex outside of marriage is so prevalent that as a society we no longer blush or are shocked. Many are even amazed that we raise concern about sex outside of marriage. It is everywhere. It is accepted. And, "as long as it doesn't hurt anyone, it must be ok" is the typical thinking today.

People who love the Lord and desire a home in heaven, will take a serious look at what God says about sex outside of marriage. God's word is not popular with the norms of society. God never intended for Christianity to fit into the world, but rather to change the world by people conforming to Christ.

▶ **God says "NO" to Sex outside of Marriage.**

- 1 Cor. 6:18 *Flee fornication*
- Gal. 5:19 *Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness*
- Rev 22:15 *Outside (of heaven) are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral...*

▶ **God says to be PURE in HEART**

- Mt 5:8 *"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.*
- Mt 5:28 *but I say to you, that everyone who looks on a woman to lust for her has committed adultery with her already in his heart.*

▶ **God says to resist TEMPTATION**

- 1 Cor 13:10 *No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it.*

There is never a RIGHT way to do something WRONG.

▶ **God says to rejoice and find fulfillment in MARRIAGE**

- Pv 5:18, 19b *"...rejoice with the wife of your youth...be intoxicated always with her love"*

Does Sex outside of marriage hurt anyone? Yes. It hurts the people who do it. God made you to live a better way! It hurts families. It hurts God. It cheapens what God has made special. It destroys the meaning of commitment and trust and it takes away from the sacredness of marriage.

Living Together vs. Marriage

- 4.2 million couples live together unmarried
- More than 50% live together before marriage

Couples who live together before marriage

- 80% greater chance of divorce than those who don't live together before marriage
- Depression among women who cohabit is 4x greater than those who are married and twice as high as among those who are single and don't cohabit
- Survey of 100 couples who lived together before marriage, 71% of women said that they would not cohabit again.
- Women who cohabit are twice as likely to experience domestic violence than married women
- More babies are born out of wedlock to 20+ yr old women than to teenagers
- Every year 9 million adults are infected with a Sexually Transmitted Disease
- Sexual satisfaction is greater among **married couples** than those who live together

These are the facts!