

Small group optional guide: Biblical sexuality

UP; we grow in our love for Jesus through His word and worship

WORD: Biblical sexuality, an overview

- Not just these 4 weeks but moving from here we aim to continue to build on these teachings, to engage better. So, if you have questions, you can engage with us through the connect card, or through a new email address pastoralcare@jcceg.co.uk questions, concerns, help etc
- This series covers Wk 1 – Biblical sexuality WK 2 – Christian Identity WK 3 Singleness WK 4 – What it is to be a man or a woman (Gender).

World views: When we engage with this subject we should first recognise where our foundations are built.

World view (Sola Experientia) / Christian view (Sola Scriptura)

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|---|--|
| No God | There is a God |
| No Creator/design in the created world | God is a good creator who speaks |
| No eternity/heaven/hell | There is an eternity beyond this life |
| Happiness and success are personal, internal, and psychological | Happiness and success (Blessedness) is found in God, following Christ. |
| Identity is internal, self-discovered | Identity is given and received |
| Ethics are primarily based on care/harm | Ethics flow from the heart of God |

If you don't believe in God, then it reasons that you will have to find your own identity and purpose. Phrases like "The most important thing is to be true to yourself" become a very powerful mantra.

And yet in following Christ we are called to 'deny ourselves daily, picking up our crosses, laying down our lives, seeking first the kingdom"

At the foundation of the Christian life is the belief that there is a God and that God is good, we must hear what God has to say about our sexuality, our purpose, our identity.

The pillars for Christian teaching on sexuality:

(Word continued...) 1) Gods good design

- Genesis 1:26-31: we were created in the image and likeness of God / created as two expressions, Male and Female / commissioned to 'be fruitful and multiply'...and this pleased God.
- Gen 2,3,4 Mankind decides to usurp God as their creator and designer, preferring to make their own way

2) In Christ, Sexuality is about more, not less

1 Cor 6:13-19; Paul challenges two ideas of the day which came from a Greek mindset

- sex and sexuality are just an appetite
- sex is dirty and defiling

in response Paul lifts our heads to a greater value in our sexuality. "The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord.....so..... 18 Flee from **sexual immorality**" - The word is **Porneia: any sexual activity with someone who is not your husband or wife.**

Paul says don't become physically naked and intimate with someone outside of biblical marriage, there are two states we may find ourselves; Married or single/celibate (there is no "committed sexual relationship").

- Sexuality is about Christ and the Church (Eph 5:30-32)
- fruitfulness (pro-creation)
- One flesh re-union; marriage is about a re-union of two sexes

Questions to consider:

- Q) What *world view* from the table may have influenced your view about sexuality?
- Q) What does this biblical view of sexuality challenge in your mind or your life?

WORSHIP songs: 10,000 reasons / The stand / Holy forever / Firm foundation / Who you say I am

OUT; we reach out to show people outside of JCC that God loves them

What social are you planning and who will you invite, welcome and display God’s love to?

IN; we connect and learn to love one another

Please look at these 2 events this week...



Come gather for 6 weeks on Thursday evenings at JCC as we go through the:

Every Christian needs good foundations in their life. Along with accompanying videos, this book focuses on these foundations, brought together in six helpful units.

- Personal Foundations
- A New Creation
- Kingdom Life
- Kingdom Warfare
- Jesus Is Building His Church
- Belonging To A Church

Book your place via the church website calendar, click on the event.

<https://www.jcceg.co.uk/calendar/>



Jubilee For Men, our men's ministry, have planned a weekend away at West Watch, Chelwood Gate.

The weekend will include lots of food, including a BBQ, a talk on Friday night, JFM Prayer, a workshop and more.

There are various ticket options available, so if you can't come to the whole thing, then that's ok.

Rooms will be shared. Over 18s only. (book through the website calendar)

- Weekend ticket** **£45.00**
Ticket for the whole weekend, including dinner on Friday, accommodation and all meals on Saturday
- Weekend Ticket (not sleeping over)** **£40.00**
Attending both days, no bed needed
- Friday night only** **£20.00**
No accommodation needed, dinner only
- Saturday day only** **£35.00**
No accommodation needed, all meals included