

Biblical Purpose #3: Pleasure

The Lover declares, *“How beautiful you are, my darling! Oh, how beautiful! Your eyes are doves.”* And the Beloved responds, *“How handsome you are, my lover! Oh, how charming!”* (Song of Solomon 1:15-16).

The beloved declares: *“My lover is to me a sachet of myrrh resting between my breasts”* (Song of Solomon 1:13) and again later, the beloved declares, *“My lover is mine and I am his; he browses among the lilies”* (Song of Solomon 2:16).

“Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth— for your love is more delightful than wine” (Song of Solomon 1:2).

The Lover comments, *“How delightful is your love, my sister, my bride! How much more pleasing is your love than wine, and the fragrance of your perfume than any spice! Your lips drop sweetness as the honeycomb, my bride; milk and honey are under your tongue. The fragrance of your garments is like that of Lebanon”* (Song of Solomon 4:11-12).

Core Seminars – Marriage Week 7

Biblical Sexuality *Biblical Purposes of Sex in Marriage*

What is sex? Hebrew word = “to know”

What does “one flesh” mean?

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh” (Genesis 2:16)

And Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.” (Mark 10:5-9)

Two points to consider:

- Sex provides a physical expression for our unity in marriage.
- Sex provides a physical expression of the overall union that marriage creates.

Next Week: The Blessings of Children

Biblical Purpose #1: A healthy, enjoyable expression of intimate union

“My lover is mine and I am his; he browses among the lilies. Until the day breaks and the shadows flee, turn, my lover, and be like a gazelle or like a young stag on the rugged hills” (Song of Solomon 2:16).

“It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God” (1 Thessalonians 4: 3-5).

1. Cultivate (Song of Solomon 1:15-16)

“How beautiful you are, my darling! Oh, how beautiful! Your eyes are like doves. How handsome you are, my lover! Oh, how charming! And our bed is verdant.” (Song of Solomon 1:15-16)

2. Protect (1 Corinthians 7:1-9)

“Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control” (1 Corinthians 7:5)

3. Don’t Neglect (1 Corinthians 7:3-5)

Biblical Purpose #2: Procreation

1. God commands us in the very beginning of time, during the creation account, to have children (Gen 1:28).
2. God continually speaks of children as a blessing and a good gift from Him (Ps 127).
3. The Bible is full of examples of children as sought after and celebrated (Genesis 33:5b).