

Hot Topics

Sex Before Marriage

Leader Guide

Theme: Although sex and sexual acts are widely talked about as a freedom to do with anyone, at any time, in any way, God has a much better plan! God created sex. He made it to be a wonderful, intimate, divine moment of connecting with one person in a husband and wife relationship. This type of romantic love-making is a gift to one another. When you are tempted to make love or engage in sexual encounters before marriage, just remember that there is a better way with indescribable, long-term blessings to look forward to as you honor the Lord.

Note to Leaders: Often young people don't think that having sex before marriage is wrong. "It's all right as long as we love each other and use protection" or "It's okay as long as we don't go too far" are both excuses given, even among young Christian girls. Be sensitive to girls who are at different phases of development. You may have some girls who are already sexually experienced and others who are just learning about sex. You may want to divide your group into smaller ones for this conversation.

As Christians, we know that we shouldn't have sex before we're married, but a lot can happen between holding hands and going all the way. So, how far is too far? As Christians, where are we supposed to draw the line? What if you really love each other and plan to get married someday? What does God have to say about sex?

The Bible uses a lot of words to talk about sex. In the King James Version, the word *fornication* is sexual immorality when used in the New Testament. The word in the original Greek has several meanings, including:

Harlotry – engaging in sex for pay

Adultery – a married person having sex with someone other than his/her spouse

Fornication – having sex outside of marriage

Keep those definitions in mind as you use these Scriptures in your discussion.

Read Matthew 15:19–20.

- Where does sexual immorality come from? (Sexual immorality comes from the evil thoughts of the heart.)
- How can you keep your heart pure?

Sex Before Marriage

Leader Guide

Read 1 Corinthians 6:12–20.

- What does verse 12 have to do with sexual immorality? (God has created us with a free will. We can choose to do whatever we want, but those choices may not be beneficial.)
- What were our bodies made for? (Not for sexual immorality but for the Lord.)
- Why should we “flee from sexual immorality”? (Sexual immorality is a sin committed against one’s own body, which is a temple of the Holy Spirit who has bought you at a price.)
- You’re probably not planning to go out and have sex with a prostitute, but it’s becoming much more acceptable to have a one night stand or a “hook up.” What happens when two people “hook up”?
- Who should we be unified with? (“The two become one flesh” – they become unified to one another. We should be unified with the Lord so that we can be one with Him in spirit.)
- How can we honor God with our bodies? (We can stay sexually pure and use our bodies to be unified with Him.)

Read Galatians 5:16–21.

- How does “living by the Spirit” help you to overcome your sinful desires? (If you’re concentrated on living by the Spirit, you’re not concerned anymore with the law or just obeying a set of rules.)
- What does “living by the Spirit” mean? Practically, what does “living by the Spirit” look like for you today? (Answers will vary. Help the girls come up with practical ideas for living by the Spirit — accountability, Christian friends, drawing clear lines, honoring your parents, etc.)
- What are the consequences of acts of the sinful nature (including sexual immorality)? (You won’t inherit the kingdom of God.)

Read Ephesians 5:3.

- Why should we avoid having “even a hint of sexual immorality”? (These are improper for God’s holy people. We need to maintain a good witness at all times.)
- How can we avoid having “even a hint of sexual immorality”? (Answers will vary. Accountability, making commitments, avoiding the appearance of evil, etc.)

Read Colossians 3:5.

- How can you put to death your earthly nature? (Remain pure. Avoid tempting situations. Have clearly established boundaries and people to hold you accountable.)

Prayer: Thank You, God, for Your gift of sex. From this day forward, I will follow Your ways and honor You. I know that the best is yet to come and I want all the blessings that were created for me in a marriage relationship.



Sex Before Marriage

Leader Guide

For more information see:

- *And the Bride Wore White* by Dannah Gresh
- *Seduced by Sex: Saved by Love* by Jan Kern
- *Technical Virginity: How Far IS Too Far?* and *Sexy Girls: How Hot is Too Hot* by Hayley DiMarco
- *I Want to Talk with My Teen About Love, Sex, and Dating* by Dr. Karl & Shannon Wendt

For more topical Bible studies for teen girls, visit www.myhealthychurch.com/teengirls

Hot Topics

Sex Before Marriage

For Student

Theme: Although sex and sexual acts are widely talked about as a freedom to do with anyone, at any time, in any way, God has a much better plan! God created sex. He made it to be a wonderful, intimate, divine moment of connecting with one person in a husband and wife relationship. This type of romantic love-making is a gift to one another. When you are tempted to make love or engage in sexual encounters before marriage, just remember that there is a better way with indescribable, long-term blessings to look forward to as you honor the Lord.

As Christians, we know that we shouldn't have sex before we're married, but a lot can happen between holding hands and going all the way. So, how far is too far? As Christians, where are we supposed to draw the line? What if you really love each other and plan to get married someday? What does God have to say about sex?

The Bible uses a lot of words to talk about sex. In the King James Version, the word *fornication* is sexual immorality when used in the New Testament. The word in the original Greek has several meanings, including:

Harlotry – engaging in sex for pay

Adultery – a married person having sex with someone other than his/her spouse

Fornication – having sex outside of marriage

Keep those definitions in mind as you use these Scriptures in your discussion.

Read Matthew 15:19–20.

- Where does sexual immorality come from? (Sexual immorality comes from the evil thoughts of the heart.)
- How can you keep your heart pure?

Sex Before Marriage

For Student

Read 1 Corinthians 6:12–20.

- What does verse 12 have to do with sexual immorality? (God has created us with a free will. We can choose to do whatever we want, but those choices may not be beneficial.)
- What were our bodies made for? (Not for sexual immorality but for the Lord.)
- Why should we “flee from sexual immorality”? (Sexual immorality is a sin committed against one’s own body, which is a temple of the Holy Spirit who has bought you at a price.)
- You’re probably not planning to go out and have sex with a prostitute, but it’s becoming much more acceptable to have a one night stand or a “hook up.” What happens when two people “hook up”?
- Who should we be unified with? (“The two become one flesh” – they become unified to one another. We should be unified with the Lord so that we can be one with Him in spirit.)
- How can we honor God with our bodies? (We can stay sexually pure and use our bodies to be unified with Him.)

Read Galatians 5:16–21.

- How does “living by the Spirit” help you to overcome your sinful desires? (If you’re concentrated on living by the Spirit, you’re not concerned anymore with the law or just obeying a set of rules.)
- What does “living by the Spirit” mean? Practically, what does “living by the Spirit” look like for you today? (Answers will vary. Help the girls come up with practical ideas for living by the Spirit — accountability, Christian friends, drawing clear lines, honoring your parents, etc.)
- What are the consequences of acts of the sinful nature (including sexual immorality)? (You won’t inherit the kingdom of God.)

Read Ephesians 5:3.

- Why should we avoid having “even a hint of sexual immorality”? (These are improper for God’s holy people. We need to maintain a good witness at all times.)
- How can we avoid having “even a hint of sexual immorality”? (Answers will vary. Accountability, making commitments, avoiding the appearance of evil, etc.)

Read Colossians 3:5.

- How can you put to death your earthly nature? (Remain pure. Avoid tempting situations. Have clearly established boundaries and people to hold you accountable.)

Prayer: Thank You, God, for Your gift of sex. From this day forward, I will follow Your ways and honor You. I know that the best is yet to come and I want all the blessings that were created for me in a marriage relationship.