

Children and Sexuality | the biggest parenting challenges you will face, Part 6

I. The Challenge of Sexuality

- I Corinthians 6:16; Proverbs 6:27-35
- Sinful sexuality is a unique temptation. I believe Satan's most powerful weapons are the ones that adulterate God's most beautiful gifts.
 - God offers salvation through a relationship with Him, and Satan convinces us that we will only be saved by our own efforts.
 - God created religion as a way to worship Him with other believers, learn about Him, and disciple each other, but Satan perverts religion until it becomes one of the most violent and dangerous powers on the planet.
 - God created marriage and sex as an important physical picture of a glorious heavenly reality as well as a beautiful and enriching human relationship. What does Satan do? He perverts sexuality and marriage in every conceivable way.
 - But sex is uniquely alluring because of the physio-spiritual bond.
- Children are master observers, and — like every human on the planet — they are interpreters. And each question is an opportunity to start an ongoing conversation with your children. It's also important to remember that conversations about Christ-honoring sexuality aren't simply about sex. Biological sex, modesty, how we physically interact with people, marriage, and procreation are all topics that deal directly with sex or slide closer to the topic.

II. The Root of Sexuality

- Sinful sexuality is a sin, but is it the problem? Sexual sins including transgenderism, homosexuality, adultery, and the like are merely the fruit of a much deeper issue.
- Children who experience what the world calls gender-dysphoria are not coming to some new truth about themselves. They believe that the biological sex God gifted them at conception is not morally good. They believe that because they have been told that they have ultimate authority over their bodies because they're autonomous and beautiful snowflakes. So they're using their technologies to reap more and more sinful satisfaction because — ultimately — they aren't trusting God's plan for their lives.
 - They may be ignorant of God's design for their bodies, and — therefore — their rebellion against His design is being done in ignorance, but the root is still the same.
 - They don't know or believe God's plan is best.
- Curfews, wise technology habits, rules about physicality, modesty, and the like are all wise and good and Christ-honoring when done in the right way for the glory of God and in the power of the Holy Spirit, but they will not ultimately solve anything. There is always a way to seek out my own satisfaction even if I'm locked in solitary confinement and all I have is my own mind.
- The heart of the issue is an issue of the heart.
- I'm serving a puny false god called self. And my false god has promised my security, and it — moment by moment — demands that I use whatever technology it takes to be happy. It tells me that I'm a free moral agent who doesn't need to bend the knee to anyone else — I'm god for crying out loud! Therefore, I get to define my own morality. And when it comes to what is moral in my sexuality, it's whatever I want.
- The only thing that will save your kids from sexual sins is a heart that trusts God to supply all our needs.

III. Help for Sexuality

- The first way to set your children on the road to success is to teach them about God. Use the Bible to introduce them to Him, His mighty deeds, His glorious character, and His right to rule.
- Second, we need to model for them what it is to love and serve God. Why would our kids want to serve Him when your daily life is proving that you need to pursue your own happiness if you ever hope to be satisfied?
- Third, as we continue to teach and reprove and correct and train our kids, we need to expose them to more and more truth in love. That means that we're going to have a perpetual conversation about Christ-honoring sexuality.
- Fourth, when my children ask questions because they're curious or cross the line into sexual sin, we must not merely try to cut off the bad fruit. We need to address the root. Yes, wisdom dictates that we need to put measures into place to protect our children from their own self-destruction, but that's not the answer . . . that's merely a wise safeguard. The answer is to redouble our efforts to introduce our kids to our God Who is so marvelous and beautiful and loving that celebrating Him is far more enjoyable than disobeying Him.
- And fifth, sometimes we need help. God created His people to require community, and though parents are the first-disciplers, it's very wise to invite other mature believers into the process.
- That is the five step process to parenting our kids for success in any facet of life . . . including sexuality. It's not easy, it's an every day thing, and often it ends in heartache if our kids choose the life of a scoffer, but it's what God commands. That means that there's nothing more satisfying than parenting our kids for Christ.

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Parent.
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