



Christ-Centered Sexuality

Part 1: What is Christ-centered sexuality?

Terms

Sex- the physical act and experiential phenomena of sexual behavior and/or intercourse.

Gender- (1) biological differences in male and female embodiment and (2) the different cultural ways in which the creational distinctions between male and female are manifested.

Sexuality- God's anthropological design and pattern for the expression of gender identity, the embodied sexual and gendered emotional, mental, and physical experience, and the procreative relationship between male and female and to the experience of erotic desire within that design.

Christ-centered sexuality- The submission of the whole self- our bodies, feelings, thoughts and imaginations, expression, behavior, and all of our affections- to Christ; holding to God as the author, designer, and sovereign authority on sex, gender, and sexuality.

Gender Binary- gender classification in which all peoples fall under either male or female.

Gender Nonbinary- rejection of gender identity or expression as categorically either male or female

Gender Fluid- fluctual change in gender expression and/or identity either (1) consistently over time or (2) by the individual's prerogative

Cisgender- gender identity corresponding biological sex.

Transgender- gender identity not corresponding to biological sex.

Heteronormative- (1) a worldview promoting the preference of heterosexuality and (2) a daily, lived socioanthropological experience corresponding with heterosexual attraction and cultural norms.

LGBTQIA2S+- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and/or Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, Two-Spirit, and the other multitude ways people chose to self-identify.

Reflection Questions

Following our discussion on Christ-centered sexuality, take some time to examine what in our discussion caused anxiety or discomfort.

Summarize the story of creation, fall, redemption, and restoration. How does this framework apply to our understanding of sexuality?

Following our discussion on Christ-centered sexuality, take some time to reflect on where God may be pressing in.

Part 2: Christ-centered sexuality and CCC

CCC Core Values

We declare a **big Gospel** (Mark 1:14-15)

We desire to be a place where individuals are **deeply known** (John 4:39)

We commit to being a **thoughtful** people (John 3)

We aim to minister to the **whole person** (Mark 2:1-12)

We seek to embody **diversity** (Matthew 10:1-4; Luke 8:1-3, 18:35-43)

We acknowledge we are all **people in process** (Mark 8:27-33)

We embrace **redemptive risk** (Matthew 25:1-14)

Terms

Affirming- the acceptance of LGBTQIA2S+ positive identity and LGBTQIA2S+ relationships as non-sinful.

Non-affirming- the rejection of LGBTQIA2S+ positive identity and LGBTQIA2S+ relationships as non-sinful.

Reflection Questions

Based on CCC's values and vision, how can CCC continue to grow in our understanding and attention to Christ-centered sexuality? And what role do you play as an individual?

In light of our understanding of discipleship, where are you suffering? Where is God calling you into submission?

RESOURCES

Books

The Great Sex Rescue: The Lies You've Been Taught and How to Recover What God Intended by Sheila Wray Gregoire

Embodied: Transgender Identities, The Church, and What the Bible Has to Say by Preston Sprinkle

Rethinking Sexuality: God's Design and Why It Matters by Julie Slattery

Faithful: A Theology of Sex by Beth Felkner Jones

The Significance of Singleness: A Theological Vision for the Future of the Church by Christina S. Hitchcock

What God Has to Say About Our Bodies by Sam Allberry

The Bible and Homosexual Practice: Texts and Hermeneutics by Robert A.J. Gagnon

The End of Sexual Identity: Why Sex Is Too Important to Define Who We Are by Jenell Williams Paris

Divine Sex: A Compelling Vision for Christian Relationships in a Hypersexualized Age by Jonathan Grant

Washed & Waiting: Reflections on Christian Faithfulness and Homosexuality by Wesley Hill

Sexual Ethics: An Evangelical Perspective by Stanley J. Grenz

Sanctified Sexuality: Valuing Sex in an Oversexed World by Sandra Glahn & Gary Barnes

Podcasts

Christian Sexuality Podcast

Sex + Christian Parents by Project Six19
The Birds & Bees

Java with Julie by Dr. Juli Slattery and Authentic Intimacy