

# NEW: FINDING YOUR HUMANITY

## NEW SEXUALITY

Pastor Derwin L. Gray & Vicki Gray – January 15, 2017

Open in prayer:

“Father, give us eyes to see Your purpose for the beautiful and sacred gift You’ve given to us. May we, by the Holy Spirit’s power, treasure and honor You with our sexuality. In Jesus Name, Amen.”

1. During the message, Vicki read a note written by a Transformer regarding her transformed life and specifically the area of her sexuality. Discuss your thoughts on the note and how it impacted you and your thinking around the topic of our sexuality. A portion of the note is included here:

*“I would also like to add how society tells us sex is no big deal, especially for a single woman my age. However, after 25 years not one of those men stood by my side, there have been pregnancy and disease concerns, and then you get to see them carry on with the next woman. It does hurt and it IS a big deal. I just do not think the human heart was meant to work that way. I think people need to know they can choose another path!”*

2. Discuss the following statement by Pastor Derwin: “Sex is an incredible gift from God that can be used or abused.” Read Matthew 5:27-30 NIV.

- Note: Matt. 5:27, “adultery” here is the term moichaomai. It is a quote from the Ten Commandments found in Ex. 20:14 and Deut. 5:18. The Greek term from the Septuagint is porneia. This word usually referred to extramarital intercourse, but it also had the added connotation of any improper extramarital sexual activity, such as homosexuality or bestiality. In the OT, adultery was a sexual affair involving a married person. Jesus redefined sexual sin as an attitude of the heart. Sex is a gift of God, a good and wholesome thing. But God has also put boundaries on its expression for our well-being and long-term enjoyment. Prideful, self-centered humans always want to go beyond the God-given bounds. These words of Jesus refer to premarital sexual activity by inference. [Utley, R. J. (2000). *The First Christian Primer: Matthew* (Vol. Volume 9, p. 44). Marshall, TX: Bible Lessons International.]

- Let’s Talk About SEX

**S** – Sex is sacred

- a. Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-15a NIV. What are the implications of this passage of Scripture?
- b. Vicki shared how our past experiences or learned untruths can impact our view of sex being considered as sacred. Considering the truths taught in the sermon, discuss how the beliefs of the culture can impact our view of sex. (Use discernment in your discussion)

**E** – The Christian sexual ethic is different from the culture and will be rejected. Read Matthew 19:3-6 NIV

- The best way to persuade the culture concerning the Christian sexual ethic is by living out beautiful relationships in which a husband and wife have a beautiful marriage and singles walk in “worship abstinence.” What do you think about this statement?

**X** – Marriage is an example of how Jesus loves His Bride, the Church. Read Ephesians 5:25-27; 33 NIV

- Vicki discussed the reality that a Christ-centered marriage is one in which both spouses learn to serve the other. In contrast, the culture’s view of marriage is that its purpose is to make us “happy.” Share any thoughts you have on this specific purpose that God has for marriage.

- Sex is a GIFT from God:

**G** - Go to Jesus in worship. Read Romans 12:1-2 NIV

- Pastor Derwin stated, “God’s mercy will redeem your past and it will empower your future in order to honor God with your sexuality.” Vicki talked about the importance of letting God heal our wounds and walking in the truth of His grace and forgiveness, trusting that we don’t have to live in shame. Discuss how these truths impacted you.

**I** – Indwelling Life of the Holy Spirit is your strength. Read 1 Corinthians 6:17-18 NIV

- What are the implications of this Scripture?

**F** – Fellowship develops accountability and encouragement. Read Galatians 6:1-2 NIV

- Why is fellowship important for God's people concerning sexuality?

**T** – Turn to Jesus and trust the Holy Spirit's power. Read and discuss 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 NIV.

**Soul-tattoo:** Treasure and worship Jesus with the gift!

Close in prayer by reading 1 Corinthians 6:18-20. Ask God the Holy Spirit make this Scripture alive in TC!