

After sex the bodies separate; but the souls are now joined together. This was God's wonderful plan for marriage, permanently uniting couples in a living and dynamic relationship. And you keep having sex and you keep on being joined together.

But, what if you were or are very sexually promiscuous? **This is the bad news.** God does not suspend soul ties between people in order to accommodate our sin. Because of God's law, whenever sexual relations occur, a joining takes place and a soul tie is established. In essence, something of yourself has been given away to each sexual partner and something of the other person is now part of you. The two becoming one flesh is simply a spiritual law.

3. Come up with a list of names, or maybe activities.

4. Confess to God.

But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. 1 John 1:9 NLT

I would encourage a person to confess their sin to God, asking Him for forgiveness and restoration.

5, Ask God to break the ungodly soul tie. And ask him to restore you and set you free from any effects of the soul tie.

This is the good news of this message: there is no sin that God is not able to forgive. And there is no soul tie that God cannot undo and break.

6. Sometimes in order to see the wonderful results you need another person to confide in.

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results. James 5:16 NLT



Lake Effect
C H U R C H

Putting God First in a Me-First World Part 7: Let's Have "The Talk"

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Introduction

You shall not commit adultery.

Exodus 20:14

Irrelevant and Extreme

David Kinnaman (The Barna Group): Christianity is now perceived as two things at the same time: irrelevant and extreme. (*Good Faith*)

And as a reaction we have tried to say I am not that way. I am a cool Christian. I can have good music and cool stage designs. I can be relevant. All of that is ok. We do not want to be irrelevant. We want to fit in. **We tend to forget what makes us effective is our relationship with Jesus Christ.**

Two Views of Sex

Cultural View

Sex is often viewed as recreation or entertainment between consenting adults. It is purely physical. It is just something you do for pleasure. It may lead to children or not. It is nothing more than two people enjoying their time together. And often the encounter really does not mean much at all. It could lead to commitment. But, that often is not the plan.

Biblical View

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. Genesis 2:4 ESV

Soul Ties

Hebrew word for “one” is *echad* meaning fused together at the deepest levels (John Mark Comer). There is no such thing as non-*echad* sex. There is no protection against unwanted *echad*. It is one of God’s spiritual principles. Furthermore, the “one flesh” does not stop when you leave the bedroom. It is powerful, and it is permanent.

12 You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is good for you. And even though “I am allowed to do anything,” I must not become a slave to anything. 13 You say, “Food was made for the stomach, and the stomach for food.” (This is true, though someday God will do away with both of them.) But you can’t say that our bodies were made for sexual immorality. They were made for the Lord, and the Lord cares about our bodies. 14 And God will raise us from the dead by his power, just as he raised our Lord from the dead. 15 Don’t you realize that your bodies are actually parts of Christ? Should a man take his body, which is part of Christ, and join it to a prostitute? Never! 16 And don’t you realize that if a man joins himself to a prostitute, he becomes one body with her? For the Scriptures say, “The two are united into one.” 1 Corinthians 6:12-16 NLT

In verse 13 Paul brings up the topic of sexual immorality. It is the Greek word *porneia*. That is where we get the word pornography. It includes all forms of sexuality outside of marriage: prostitution and porn, adultery, fornication, inappropriate movies, strip clubs, etc. — it’s all *porneia*. Paul reminds the Corinthians that they are uniting themselves through sex and becoming one with a prostitute. And he does this by reminding them that according to Genesis 2 the two will become one flesh.

Design of Marriage

At a Christian wedding, there is a very specific order that symbolizes God’s intent for marriage. First the pastor asks the couple a set of questions that they answer with “I do”. This set of questions is their commitment to God. And then the couple does their personal vows. That is their commitment to each other. And then they exchange rings as a symbol of that commitment. And then it ends with a kiss, which is a symbol of what that they are now free to consummate their marriage with sex. This is why marriage is a covenant — it is a promise between two people and God. But, in our culture we have put sex before the vows and that throws everything off.

Covenant and Freedom

You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.
Exodus 19:4-6

Notice the order: God saves the people, which leads to -- their response of obedience; which leads to -- the blessings of obedience. Covenant is God’s way of securing your victory. But, before we find the blessing of obedience **we must decide if we are really going to submit to God.**

“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery” Genesis 20:20

“The law of God proceeds from God’s being and reflects His character” (R.C. Sproul).

The Path to Freedom

1. Decide if God is your King.

19 Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Have you settled the fact that God has the right to tell you how to live, and that his commands are not arbitrary but reflections of his character? You’ll never be free until you do. The more you try to live life on your own terms, the more bondage you’ll experience.

2. Understand God’s plan for sex.

We know that God’s plan for sexual fulfillment lie strictly within the covenant of marriage. And that marriage — is a spiritual transaction.