



What the Bible Says About Sexuality

Read the following passage and mark any mention about sexuality.

1 Corinthians 6:9-20

9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, 10 nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. 12 "All things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. 13 "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food"—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. 15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! 16 Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two will become one flesh." 17 But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. 18 Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. 19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Commentary:

Some of the Corinthian believers continued their preconversion practice of engaging in sexual relations with prostitutes. Paul corrects their false understanding of Christian freedom. Having sexual relations with prostitutes offends Christ, one's own body, and the Holy Spirit. (NIV Zondervan Study Bible)

Observations:

Circle 'the unrighteous' what are some of their defining characteristics?

Underline 'but you were' - what has happened to the unrighteous?

Place a box around 'dominated' - other translations use 'mastered' by, why should Christians be free from these things?

Highlight the seven occurrences of 'body' - what is being said about the body through the passage?

Interpretations:

What do other vice lists say about how we should be as believers- Galatians 5:19-21 & Ephesians 5:5?

How practical is verse 11?

"... the human body fulfills its proper role only when it acts in accordance with its relationship to the Lord." - what does this mean for our relationships?

... for our bodies?

Applications:

Biblical standards are much stricter than worldly standards, how do you manage to uphold holiness in a broken world?

What does the sanctified life look like for you?

What is your standard of sexual morality? How does it compare to God's standard?

How do you give your 'body' to God as a living sacrifice?

Timely Truths

In Paul's mind, same-sex sexual intimacy is an especially clear illustration of the idolatrous human impulse to turn away from God's order and design. Those who suppress the truth about God as revealed in nature suppress the truth about themselves written in nature. Homosexual practice is an example on a horizontal plane of our vertical rebellion against God. ... Even if Paul did not use our modern vocabulary, his judgment is still the same. Homosexual behavior is a sin, not according to who practices it or by what motivation they seek it, but because that act itself, as a truth-suppressing exchange, is contrary to God's good design. ... Homosexual practice is sinful because it violates the divine design in creation. According to Paul's logic, men and women who engage in same-sex sexual behavior—even if they are being true to their own feelings and desires—have suppressed God's truth in unrighteousness. They have exchanged the fittedness of male-female relations for those that are contrary to nature.

DeYoung, Kevin. What Does the Bible Really Teach about Homosexuality?