

Series Title:

“Tightening the Knot”

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Sermon Title:

“God’s Design for Sexual Intimacy”
(Part 1)

Harbour Shores Church

Sermon Text:

I Corinthians 7:1-7

5.4.08

Introduction:



- Scripture reveals that there are at least three purposes for the sexual dimension of the marriage relationship:
 1. _____ - (*Genesis 1:28; 9:7; Psalm 127:3-5*)
 2. _____ - (*Genesis 3:16; 18:12; 26:8; Deuteronomy 24:5; Proverbs 5:18-19*)
 3. _____ - (*I Corinthians 7:1-2*)
- There are three things that Paul addresses here in these verses regarding this matter of sexual intimacy in the marriage relationship:

I. The _____ Of Sexual Intimacy (7:1-2)

- The expression, “*it is good for a man not to touch a woman,*” is a euphemism for _____, not marriage.
- *Sex is _____ for and _____ to the marriage relationship.*
- Hebrews 13:4

“God gave us this restriction not to be burdensome, but to increase the pleasure and intimacy found in God-glorifying sex.”

- As Paul begins to lay out God’s Design for Sexual Intimacy, there are several principles that he gives that we need to take a closer look at:

Principle #1 - **A Healthy Sex Life Is A _____ For _____** (v. 2a)

- What is the meaning of the word translated “*immoralities*”?

“The purpose of sex is not merely for procreation and pleasure – but it is also designed to satisfy a biological need that we would be tempted to satisfy sinfully were it not for marriage.”

- *The _____ eye is never _____!*
- To abstain from marital sex proves to be a _____; to enjoy marital sex promotes _____.

Principle #2

**- The Norm Is That Christians Will And Will Enjoy
Sexual Relations (v. 2b)**

- *Not only does God _____ sex to the context of marriage, but He makes it a _____ in the marriage relationship!*
- Consistently abstaining from sex in marriage is not only _____; it is _____.
“Having an active, sexually intimate marriage helps couples to feel connected at a deeper level, beyond words and ideas and day-to-day problems.”
- One of God’s deepest purposes in creating sex was to use it to _____ husband to wife and wife to husband.

Principle #3

**- Sex Within Marriage Provides From Sexual
(vv. 8-9)**

- The phrase “to burn” means “to be _____” and is best understood as referring to strong passion. (Romans 1:27)
- Don’t misunderstand, Paul isn’t suggesting that you should get married in order to be free from _____.
- *Marriage acts as a _____ so that the natural sexual desires can be met within a marriage and only within a marriage.*
- Was Paul ever married? (v. 8)

Conclusion:

Remember, it is your responsibility to make the divine principles and truths contained in this message real by consistent application of them in your own life.