

Lesson 7 / July 14, 2024

# God's Values about Sex

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as  
**STEP 1**

**Lesson 7****Lesson Focus**

We need God's values about sex.

**Lesson 7****Bible Basis:**

1 Corinthians 6:12-20;  
7:1-5

**Lesson 7****Memory Verse:**

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; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.  
—1 Corinthians 6:19-20

**Your students will contemplate God's values for sex by comparing the world's messages with God's plan.**

**Materials:**

Internet access

Begin today's group time by asking your students to call out where many of their friends (as well as they themselves) might get their values about sex. Examples might be: the apps Instagram, TikTok, and Snapchat; PG-13 movies; conversations with peers, etc.

➤ **What do society and media teach us about sex?** (Allow teens to share their thoughts. Answers will vary but will likely include the idea that everything is okay if it's consensual.)

**The media has a lot to say about sex. Because there are so many songs, TV shows, and movies with sexual content, teens are increasingly turning to the media for much of their information about sex. In fact, a recent article by Common Sense Media stated that, "teens report that their main source of information about sex, dating and sexual health comes from what they see and hear in the media."**

➤ **How are the messages of media different than what God's word says?** (Allow teens to share their thoughts. Answers will vary but may include the fact that sex is powerful and designed by God for the context of marriage.)

➤ **Why are these messages easy to believe and follow?** (Allow teens to share their thoughts. Answers will vary.)

➤ **In what ways could society and media's teachings about sex be really harmful?** (Allow teens to share their thoughts. Answers will vary but may include that society only teaches us to do what feels good. Their messages don't tell us about the potential harm and consequences that can result from our behavior.)

➤ **What are some of the consequences that people could face by being sexually active before marriage?** (Pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, feelings of regret, etc.)

**It is easy to think that love can be found in others and sometimes it can, but it may or may not be a love that lasts. God's love for us may seem to come with some strict guidelines that the world finds restrictive, but sex outside of marriage doesn't fill the emptiness and may, instead, make that emptiness and desperate need for love and acceptance worse...adding regret alongside it.**

**God's guidelines for sex are for our good and following them can affect our future marriage and family for the better. Let's look further to see what God has to say on this topic.**

Source:

<https://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/sexual-behavior-teens-learn-from-media/>

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Lesson 7 / July 14, 2024

# God's Values about Sex

for use as  
**STEP 4** 

**Lesson 7****Focus:**

We need God's values about sex.

**Lesson 7****Bible Basis:**

1 Corinthians 6:12-20;  
7:1-5

**Lesson 7****Memory Verse:**

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; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.  
—1 Corinthians 6:19-20

**Materials:**

- Markers
- Index cards
- Pens/pencils
- Whiteboard and markers (or screenshared document)

Before class, write the following on a whiteboard (or screenshared document): “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit ....?” If your class is meeting online, invite teens to bring supplies with them to class.

Invite students to write what they believe this phrase from today's memory verse means on the whiteboard. (If your class is meeting online, invite students to share responses as you type them on the screenshared document.)

After students have had a chance to write their answers, discuss the students' answers. (Be aware that some students may not be aware of this truth. They actually may not know that their body is a temple. Today's lesson may be the first time they are hearing God's values for sex. Some students may have heard these truths many times, but for others, they may have never given God's values much thought, especially in the context of sexual activity which they may see as their right or their need.)

➤ **Why are people more apt to look at the world's values about sex and marriage than God's values?** (Answers will vary. Invite as many teens as possible to share their answers.)

**It isn't easy to have the same values as God when it comes to sex and marriage. Yet, God has given us principles about sex and marriage for our own good.**

Distribute supplies (or invite teens to have them ready at home). Invite students to make a list this week of what they are looking for in their future marriage. Encourage them to put a checkmark next to all of the things they write that are also God's values for marriage. Have students write down the entire verse, 1 Corinthians 16:9 on their index card and use it to evaluate their checklist.

Have a volunteer read 1 Corinthians 16:9. Emphasize to students the last part of the verse, “You are not your own.”

➤ **If you are not your own, then whose are you?** (Invite students to share.)

Follow up after your group time today with any students who may need to talk about their own relationships or things they are doing that are going against God’s values for sex and marriage. Be available. You may be the lifeline your students seek as they deal with guilt, regret, and hopelessness. Lead them to God’s redemptive care for them and guide them in things they can do to find forgiveness if they have been involved in sexual sin and rebellion.

Close in prayer.

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