



Part One: Sex Tricks

Sex has so much promise. But somehow it doesn't always deliver what we hoped for. Somewhere along the line, we got tricked. What happened? Join us as we explore sex in the Bible and see what happened to the gift God gave us and what that means for our lives.

Bottom Line: Sex as distorted by sin tricks us by promising intimacy but delivering loneliness and deeper hurt. Knowing how sex got distorted is the first step in getting back onto the path toward intimacy.

Scripture: Genesis 2:22-25; Genesis 29:16-17, 31-35 and Matthew 15: 18-20

Community Group questions

1. To what extent have you found people in the church willing or able to talk meaningfully about sex? How will people in the general culture will to talk about sex on a meaningful level? What pattern do you see, and why do you think that is?
2. In what ways can you see sex as a gift from God? In what ways have you seen that gift distorted in our culture?
3. As you read through Genesis 2:22-25, what kind of intimacy do you see between Adam and Eve, and what do you find beautiful or surprising about how God ordered their relationship?
4. Look at Genesis 29:16-17 and 31-35. In this story, Jacob actually has two wives, one of whom he "wanted" and the other of whom he was "given". Read through the verses and trace out the pain of sex when it is removed from the context of love. Imagine being the people in the verses you are reading and imagine the kind of emotional legacy that would leave on you. Have you seen that kind of dynamic at work in our culture? Where?
5. Read Matthew 15: 18-20. In this teaching, Jesus includes sexual immorality as part of a list with a bunch of other "sins". What do those sins have in common? What might that teach you about the nature of sexual "immorality"?
6. If your group is willing, try tackling a "personal" question: In what ways do you find sex has not been as fulfilling as it promised to be? In what way has your life been affected by the way sin has stained the gift of sex that God gave us? Take time to pray for each other after people share their stories.