



Part Three: Totally Satisfying Sex

Cosmopolitan aside, is it possible to have completely satisfying sex? How do married people find sexual fulfillment? What about singles? Where does real joy in sex come, whether you're sexually active or not?

Bottom Line: Fulfillment comes to singles when his or her greatest joy in life becomes the well being of others. Fulfillment comes to marriage when a husband's ultimate joy is the well being of his wife.

Scripture: Ephesians 5. 21-33, 1 Corinthians 7: 1-2, 8-9, 33-38

Community Group questions:

1. The old expression "the grass is always greener on the other side" is still true. Are there times in your life when you believe that if your circumstance changed, you would be happier? Why do you think that is?
2. When it comes to intimacy between a husband and wife, read Ephesians 5:21-33. Trace out the kind of love that a husband is to give his wife, and think about the dynamic that this would produce in a marriage.
3. Unfortunately, many married couples never experience the level of love or intimacy that God makes available to them. Why do you think that is?
4. As you read Ephesians 5:21-33, notice that the writer keeps switching between explaining the relationship of a husband and wife and the relationship of Jesus and the church. Do you think that perhaps the love and intimacy shared between a husband and wife is enriched and enhanced by the intimacy of their relationship with Christ? How?
5. If truly satisfying sex comes from couples who love one another with the love of Christ and are intimately connected emotionally and spiritually, how can this passage from Ephesians serve as a roadmap to building that kind of intimacy?

6. One of the pressing issues facing many singles is how to find intimacy and love when they are not sexually active. How does Paul handle that? Read 1 Corinthians 7:1-2, 8-9 and 33-38.

7. Paul at first seems to favour marriage as a concession, but in verses 33-38 he reveals his true heart. What is Paul saying?

8. Does Paul believe it is better to be single or married? Do you believe that devotion to Christ can become as or more fulfilling than experiencing sexual intimacy with another person?

9. For those who are single, is the fact that the two most influential people in all of the New Testament were celibate (Jesus and Paul) of any comfort? To what extent do you think Jesus or Paul felt like they were “missing out” because of their celibacy? To what extent do you believe they enjoyed intimacy with God?

10. What next steps will you take - single or married - to make the well being of others (for singles) or (husbands) the well being of your wife your ultimate joy?