



let's talk about **SEX**



Week 4: SEX & THE BRAIN

Taming Our Most Powerful Sexual Organ

With Eric Sandras, Ph.D.

WATCH OUT...

The devil will always take you farther than you want to go, make you stay longer than you wanted to stay, and then make you pay more than you thought you could possibly pay.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:12-20 (GW):

[12] Someone may say, "I'm allowed to do anything," but not everything is helpful. I'm allowed to do anything, but I won't allow anything to gain control over my life. [13] Food is for the stomach, and the stomach is for food, but God will put an end to both of them. However, the body is not for sexual sin but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body. [14] God raised the Lord, and by his power God will also raise us.

[15] Don't you realize that your bodies are parts of Christ's body? Should I take the parts of Christ's body and make them parts of a prostitute's body? That's unthinkable! [16] Don't you realize that the person who unites himself with a prostitute becomes one body with her? God says, "The two will be one." [17] However, the person who unites himself with the Lord becomes one spirit with him.

[18] Stay away from sexual sins. Other sins that people commit don't affect their bodies the same way sexual sins do. People who sin sexually sin against their own bodies. [19] Don't you know that your body is a temple that belongs to the Holy Spirit? The Holy Spirit, whom you received from God, lives in you. You don't belong to yourselves. [20] You were bought for a price. So bring glory to God in the way you use your body.

ROMANS 12:1-2 (TNIV):

[1] Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is true worship. [2] Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

MATTHEW 4:17 (NASB):

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

1 JOHN 1:5-10 (NRSV):

[5] This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. [6] If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; [7] but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. [8] If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. [9] If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. [10] If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

JAMES 5:16 (NLT):

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and wonderful results.

FOR FURTHER STUDY...

Check out Eric's books, *Buck Naked Faith* and *Plastic Jesus*.

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...

WARMING UP...

1. After briefly reviewing this week's message, share one thing that most challenged, encouraged, or perplexed you.
2. Do you think we are becoming more sexually free or sexually enslaved as a culture? Talk about examples that support your opinion.
3. Our culture pushes us toward finding our value in what we do, what we have, and how we look. Take a quick inventory of your lifestyle, your possessions, your body, and how you present yourself. How is your commitment to Christ making a difference, if any, in these areas?

LOOK TO THE BOOK...

4. Read **1 John 1:5-10 + James 5:16** (above). a) What verse or thought stand out to you the most? Why? b) Given our theme for this series, what do you think it would mean for you to "walk in the light"? Think of examples. c) In what ways does **1 John 5:8** promote healthy, authentic, community?

SO WHAT?...

5. Is there anything in your life that is slowing you down, weighing you down, or holding you back from being the person God has designed you to be? Read **1 John 5:9** again. Take time to pray for each other about sin, forgiveness, and cleansing.

Eric Sandras @ THE MEETING HOUSE – Sunday, March 4 / 11, 2007