

AUGUST PARENT CONNECT

Identity and Sexuality

Goal #1: Train up a Child

- Identity firm in Christ
- Truth found in Scripture
- Love expressed towards all

Goal #2: Love our Neighbors

- Understand so we can empathize
- Build relationship to build trust
- Introduce them to Jesus so they are ready for the truth in love.

Identity in Christ

- God created them male and female: Matthew 19:4, Mark 10:6
- We are made in the image of God: Genesis 1:27, 2 Corinthians 3:17
- We are wonderfully made: Psalm 139:13-18
- We were created for a purpose: Ephesians 2:10, Jeremiah 29:11
- We are a child of God: Ephesians 1:4-5, 1 John 3:1
- We are unconditionally loved: Romans 8:38-39, Ephesians 3:18-19
- We are created for relationship: John 15:5-8, John 17:25-26

3 Big Questions

Who am I?

- Question about Identity
- Answer: I'm enough because of Jesus

Where do I fit in?

- Question about Belonging
- I belong with God's people

What difference can I make?

- Question about Purpose
- I'm invited into God's greater story

Taken from: 3 Big Questions That Change Every Teenager by Kara Powell

Ground Rules

- The goal is to lead people to Jesus, not fix them!
- We are all sinners in need of a Savior!
- Remember homosexuality is only one type of sexual sin.
- Separate the politics from the person. We are talking about an actual person and their actual life.

What Would Jesus Do?

- He loved them.
- He met them where they were at.
- He invited them into a relationship.
- He spoke truth with grace and kindness.
- He told them to stop sinning. (In love)
- He invited them to be His disciple.

Parent Connect Schedule

- September 24th: Friendships
- October 29th: Fear and Anxiety
- November 19th: How to Answer Bible Questions
- December: 17th: Connecting with Kids

So God created human beings in His own image. In the image of God He created them; male and female He created them. -Genesis 2:27

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NOTE: LMC does not necessarily endorse all the opinions expressed in these podcasts and books. These tackle very difficult topics with love and even where we differ in opinion we can learn from their approaches and perspective. If you have specific questions or areas you would like to learn about, you can search through past episodes. The LMC staff is also available too.

Podcast/Video Resources:

Think Biblically Podcast by Sean McDowell and Scott Rae

- [Overcoming Same Sex Sexual Desires](#) with Kim Zember
- [Messy Truth](#) with Caleb Kaltenbach
- [Embodied: Transgender Identities and the Church](#) with Preston Sprinkle
- [Born Again This Way](#) with Rachel Gilson

Theology in the Raw Podcast by Preston Sprinkle

- [#846 Purposeful Sexuality](#) with Ed Shaw
- [#886 Sex, Gender and the Anthropology of Trans Identities](#)
- [#859 Sexual Orientation, Sexual Fluidity and the "Born this way" myth](#)
- [#857 Understanding Female Sexuality](#) with Lindsey Snyder

Java with Juli Podcast by Juli Slattery

- [#363 Why are Christians Afraid of the LGBT+ Conversation?](#)
- [#361 Learn How to Share the Birds & the Bees with Your Littles](#)

LifeMission Church

- [Culture in Chaos Series](#): Part 2 & 3 talk specifically about sexuality

Oaks Church

- Asking for a Friend Series: [What does God say about sexuality?](#)

Books

- Living in a Gray World by Preston Sprinkle- Good for teens and adults
- 3 Big Questions that Change Every Teenager by Kara Powell
- A Mom's Guide to Lies Girls Believe by Dannah Gresh (The whole series)
- Wild at Heart: Discovering the Secret of a Man's Soul by John Eldredge
- Your New Name by Esther Fleece Allen
- Spiritual Parenting by Michelle Anthony
- Axis.org : Glossary of Terms [LGBTQ+ Community](#)
- [The Culture Translator](#): Free weekly email!!!!!!

*There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death. Proverbs 14:12
Trust in the Lord with all your heart, do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways
acknowledge him, and he will make straight your path. Proverbs 3:5-6
As he thinks in his heart, so is he. Proverbs 23:7*

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The Bible is our only source of absolute truth.

We are all unique! Our uniqueness doesn't determine our gender or sexual orientation. Our uniqueness is a result of who you are as a child of God. You are uniquely and beautifully made by your Creator!

Bible References

Did God create gender?

- Genesis 1:27
- Matthew 19:4
- Mark 10:6

What is God's view on marriage?

- Genesis 2:24
- Matthew 19:4-6
- Mark 10:6-8
- Ephesians 5:31

Why does God want us to avoid sexual sins?

- Leviticus 20:26
- Romans 1:24-32
- 1 Corinthians 6:9-20

Other Scriptures on Sexual Immorality

- 1 Corinthians 5:9-11
- 1 Corinthians 6:9
- Ephesians 5:5
- Hebrews 12:16
- Hebrews 13:4
- Revelations 21:8

If someone has same sex attraction, are they sinning?

- James 1:13-15
- Titus 2:11-14
- 2 Corinthians 10:4-5
- Ephesians 4:25-27

Bible References

Is it a sin to be a practicing homosexual?

- Genesis 19:1-13
- Leviticus 18:22
- Leviticus 20:13
- Romans 1:26-27
- 1 Corinthians 6:9-10
- 1 Timothy 1:3-11

Should a Christian choose to live a lifestyle of sexual immorality?

- 1 John 2:3-6
- Romans 8:5-16
- Romans 6:5-23
- Revelation 22:12-15

If you have messed up, are you too far gone?

- Colossians 3:1-17
- Romans 3:19-28
- Romans 8:1-2, 31-39
- Romans 10:9-10
- John 3:16-17

Other Scriptural Perspectives on Sexual Purity

Jesus set incredibly high standards for sexual purity! We all need grace and forgiveness.

- Divorce and Remarriage = Adultery: Mark 10:1-12
- Looking lustfully at a woman = Adultery: Matthew 5:27-32

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Don't you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin? Romans 2:4

Answering Questions about Identity and Sexuality:

How should the church respond to someone who has same-sex attraction?
How should the church respond to someone who lives a homosexual lifestyle?
How should the church respond to someone who identifies as transgender?

- With kindness, not judgment, condemnation, or disdain: Romans 2:1-5
- With humility-we have all sinned: John 8:1-11
- With patience, truth and the message of the Good News: 2 Timothy 4:2-5
- With kindness and forgiveness: Ephesians 4:32
- Like Jesus responded to Zaccheus, the woman at the well, and the woman caught in adultery. (Luke 19, John 4, John 8)

What should I do as a parent to equip my children to live a godly life?

- Teach them the story of creation. Genesis 1. God made them male and female and that was good! Both genders reveal God's characteristics to the world!
- Teach them about God's plan for marriage. It is between 1 male and 1 female. It is to represent the relationship between God and his bride. Their physical oneness is a representation of us opening ourselves to God and God coming inside us and giving us life.
- Explain that their purpose here on this earth is to glorify God. To live out their God given purpose by serving and loving God and others. Not simply pursuing pleasure and the things that make them feel happy.
- Remind them that God is not withholding good from them but wants to give them everything that they need. He gives true joy!
- Celebrate their uniqueness as God-given, not as confirmation of or in conflict with their gender or sexual orientation. We all express our gender uniquely!
- Create environments for all kinds of conversations. A safe place where questions and doubts are welcomed and loved.
- Be prepared. Pay attention and do your homework. If you don't know how to respond seek counsel and never stop learning.
- Be mindful of what you expose them to. The world is giving them messages left and right. Pay attention to what they are hearing and seeing. Plugged In is a great resource to know what a movie, TV show, music, games and books are appropriate for your children. Another way to monitor what they hear and see is to avoid or mute commercials and ads.
- Don't let them use social media and monitor their internet use with Bark.

