Generation Next Sex – Selected Scriptures

Things have changed over the years in our culture. Some of what we once thought was good, we no longer view as good. Our preferences have changed. Technology has changed. Values have changed. People have changed.

Our culture has changed but the eternal Word of God has not changed and will not change.

"Your word, Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations ... Your laws endure to this day, for all things serve You." Psalm 119:89-91 (NIV)

There are two myths to address today inside of a topic that is often misunderstood within the Church.

Myth: Sex is nothing. Sex is everything **Bible:** Sex is a celebration of the marriage covenant

Those who suggest sex is nothing are in pursuit of recreational sex. Those who suggest sex is everything are in pursuit of relationship sex or sexual identity. Those who suggest sex is a celebration of the marriage covenant are simply trying to embrace God's will.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth". Genesis 1:27-28 (ESV)

A man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed. Genesis 2:24-25 (ESV)

Being fruitful requires sexual activity. Naked and no shame reveals that sexual activity is not shameful. Therefore, sex is a good thing. Sex is God's gift to the covenant of marriage.

Here's the problem: Our sin nature draws us into a place where we are self-centered, self-absorbed and individualistic - it's simply a logical conclusion that a culture's natural approach to sex will be based on individual preference.

Our culture has attempted to change the purpose of this gift.

There are some who view sex as the main thing that drives a relationship. There are also some who view sex as nothing more than pleasure outside of relationship.

How do we respond?

Show the culture a better way. Let's respond to the longings of our culture by presenting an entirely different vision of sex and marriage. Let's declare what God is FOR. What I'm suggesting here is that the Church can and should resist the culture with two things: resistance AND redirection.

Home Group Discussion Questions:

1. Please begin with general reflections on the Sunday message.

2. Have you ever thought of the Bible as a love story? (God's love for people)

3. When it comes to the Church's response to the culture, Pastor Karl mentioned resistance and redirection? What do you think is the difference between resistance and redirection? Are both needed?

4. It was suggested on Sunday that the culture has viewed sexuality not as a rule but as recreation and again not as intimacy but identity. Is it possible for Christians today to have a Biblically accurate view of sexuality when there are so many different voices in the culture?

5. Share your thoughts in response to the video clip featuring Sam Allbery, the pastor in England who explained that he is same-sex attracted yet faithful to Jesus.