



SNL: SexNLove
Week One: For Singles - Why Wait
February 7, 2010

Mike asked the question, “Why wait to add sex to our love until we are married?”

Talk as a group about your response to the sermon as a whole. What stood out to you? What was refreshing to hear, what was hard to hear?

Before we dig into the sermon discussion, why “do you” or why “do you not” believe it is right to add sex to love until you are married? Be honest.

Mike gave 3 reasons the Bible gives us as to why we should wait to add sex to our love:

- 1) Because we trust God: **Read 1 Thess 4:3-5, 7; Proverbs 3:5-6**
Immorality: actual Greek word is “porneia” where we get the word pornography.
Definition of Immorality: any genitally involved sex outside of a marriage bond.
Hearing this definition, what specific acts would be included under the heading of “immorality”?

What attitudes do you have or have you seen our culture have about sex before marriage? Why are people participating in this act?

What are you risking when you have sex outside of marriage?

What are you risking by waiting till marriage? How can you trust God with these risk?

Mike talked about benefits of trusting God in this area. He named peace, security, a life story for our children and others. What other benefits do you see?
- 2) I will wait because I respect myself: **Read 1 Cor 6:18-20; Romans 6:13**
How is waiting until marriage a step of “respecting yourself”?
- 3) I will wait because I will honor my future spouse (Heb 13:4)
In our culture, we do not think past immediate gratification. Thinking about our future spouse is a practice in self-control. What are specific steps you would encourage a person that is not married to take to honor marriage?

The Bible is filled with words to encourage waiting to apply sex to your love after marriage. Read the following verses:

1 Corinthians 5:1-2; 1 Corinthians 6:13-20; Galatians 5:19-26; Col 3:5-11

These are just a few of the many verses in Scripture. But, in these few, is sex outside the boundaries of marriage ever seen as a good thing?

Are there any verses in Scripture that you can think of that speak to sex outside of the boundaries of marriage as being a good thing?

Lastly, we are tempted many times in many situations to act on our sexual desires. There are practical steps we can take to keep self control. **Read Genesis 39: 1-10**

Here again is another story speaking against sex outside the boundaries of marriage. What steps did Joseph take to not fall into this temptation?

What had he set his mind to even before the temptation came?

What parts of Joseph’s attitude can you take on and practice?

Read Genesis 39:11-21

Even when we honor God, it does not mean that someone else's choices will not affect us. Joseph made all the right decisions yet finds himself in jail.

Where was God's grace to Joseph?

Where are places that you tried to honor God or want to honor God with sex but are attacked by others for that?

How does this story encourage you to "hang on"?

Many of us have not honored the Lord with our sex. That is for many reasons: fear, just didn't know these truths, lack of trust, etc...

But there is great news: Read Isaiah 1:18. Jesus cleanses each of us and enables us to make a fresh start. **What practical steps can you take or would you encourage someone to take to make a fresh start?**