

# LEAD SHEET

## Relationships : A Biblical View - Week 1 **COOTIES, COMMERCIALS AND THE WAY IT SHOULD BE**

May 28, 2017

### **THIS MONTH'S FAITH SKILL:**

### **PERSONALIZE SCRIPTURE**

If you want to know God better, memorize and apply His Word!

### **GETTING STARTED**

#### **General Discussion:**

- How are guys and girls different?

*(Guys are gross and girls are pretty. Girls are smarter than guys are. Who knows what the students will say!)*

- Do you think it is weird to talk about guy/girl relationships, dating, etc. at church? Why or why not?

*(Allow for discussion.)*

- Do you think God cares about how you live your life regarding sexual purity, dating, and similar issues?

*(Yes, God cares about everything.)*

Unfortunately, the Church is often too quiet about topics like these. However, God cares about these aspects of your life as much as He cares about the other parts of your life. While it is best to get wisdom and insight from your parents on these topics, we want to talk, for a few weeks, about things that sometimes trip up teenagers.

This week, we're going to jump right in and talk about a BIG subject - sex.

## **DIGGING IN**

### **Read 1 Corinthians 6:17-20**

There are many views out there regarding sex. I like to break it up into three categories. Two are wrong views of human sexuality and one is the right view.

### **Cooties**

*(Put this in your own words)* Remember when you were in elementary school and you thought the other gender was gross? I remember when girls would chase me on the playground and I would legitimately want to avoid them. I wanted to play with my buddies and have fun, NOT be around girls.

Take the cooties theory--that guys and girls should avoid each other at all costs--and inject it with religion and you will get a false teaching that says human sexuality is gross, dirty, and to be avoided. However, once you marry, sex is great fun and holy. All of this double talk can be confusing. More tragically, people who are the victims of sexually abuse often conclude that sexuality is wrong.

### **General Discussion:**

- Why do you think some people conclude that cooties continue during the teenage years? *(They are trying to protect people, give a concrete line not to cross, etc.)*

### **Commercials**

The opposite is also true. Some people are so sexually open that even at a young age they are obsessed with sex. Our whole world seems to have jumped on board at times. A common expression says, "Sex sells," and it's true. If it didn't, then many companies would abandon the strategy. As it is, cars, hamburgers, and television shows are promoted with sexuality in mind.

This is not a completely new phenomenon. Even in ancient Bible times, there were societies who did the same thing.

## **Read 1 Corinthians 5:9-11**

Sometimes we are told that we live in one of the most sensual cultures in the history of humankind. While in some ways this is true, there have always been people who have attempted to promote sex as a product, or promote another product using sex.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Why do you think Paul states it is wrong to claim to be a Christian and yet participate in sexual immorality?

*(It is hypocritical to try to live both lifestyles. You cannot serve two masters.)*

2. What harm can come to the Church when Christ followers live contrary to God's Will with their bodies?

*(It affects the Church's witness, and brings sin into the Body of Christ.)*

3. Why do you think it works to sell stuff using false promises of belonging, love, and sexuality?

*(We believe lies, have deeply felt needs that can be tapped into and manipulated, etc.)*

4. If we know something is a lie, why do you think we buy into it? Why do we have the tendency to believe lies rather than stand on God's Truth? *(Perhaps we do not trust God enough to take care of us; we are sinners, selfish, etc.)*

## **A Gift from God**

The truth is attraction to members of the opposite sex is totally natural. The Bible teaches that since God has ordained sexuality as a good thing, it should be celebrated within the marriage covenant.

## **Read Genesis 2:24-25**

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Have you ever heard anyone talk about sex as a gift from God? *(Allow for discussion.)*

2. Why do you think so many people chase the promises of

God in inappropriate ways? *(Because it's easier to try to meet their need in a way other than waiting on God.)*

So, here's the summary. Some people think sex is yucky and some people think we should get to do whatever we want, whenever we want, with whomever we want. However, God says that sex is for married couples who are devoted to one another and express themselves only with one another.

## **MAKING IT REAL**

To put it another way, sex is not gross, but it should not be worshipped as a god either. It is a gift from God, and having a right understanding of it will help you navigate the difficult years when most of your friends are confused and getting hung up on one end of the spectrum or the other. So let's get the right understanding:

### **Be Right with Jesus**

#### **Read Romans 1:6 and Ephesians 2:19-22**

Both of these passages talk about how we belong to Jesus and to Jesus' people. But how do you know if you really do belong?

#### **Read Luke 14:25-33**

##### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What does this passage say is necessary if we want to follow Jesus? *(Deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow Jesus daily.)*
2. Be honest about your life right now, are you right with Jesus? *(They may not choose to share this aloud, but it is good to ask the question to get them thinking.)*

So if you think you're ready to pursue relationships with other people, make sure that you are right with Jesus first. If you're not, go back to the beginning and start over. St. Augustine said, "Because God has made us for Himself, our hearts are restless until they rest in Him."

## **Read Jeremiah 1:5, 2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 John 3:1, and John 15:15**

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What do these verses tell us?

*(God finds us exceedingly valuable. We do not have to find our value elsewhere.)*

2. How should this influence our relationships with others?

*(Allow for discussion.)*

When you are right with Jesus and only when you are right with Jesus, pursue God-honoring relationships with members of the opposite sex.

### **General Discussion:**

- At what age do you think people really understand their relationship with Jesus and really understand who they are? *(Answers will vary widely. The truth is most of us are older teens or young adults.)*

- Why do you think people are in such a hurry to have relationships with other people? *(Impatient, think they know better, believe lies, etc.)*

- Have you seen how rushing into a relationship caused pain and conflict? *(Every kid has--a friend, a divorced parent, abuse of some kind, etc.)*

- Do you think rushing into a relationship is worth it? *(Hopefully by this point, they will all agree that it is not.)*

## **Read 1 Corinthians 6:21**

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. With what price were you bought?

*(The price of Christ's Life.)*

2. Why should this "price" affect how we live our lives?

*(We should live lives of gratitude to God for saving us.)*

3. How can you best honor God with your body as a teenager? (Stay pure, do not rush into relationships, honor God with your body, etc.)

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Pray for your students. Invite them to pray for each other.  
Pray that they will live wisely.