



**Title:** The Good News of Marital Intimacy (First Corinthians #16)

**Text:** 1 Corinthians 7:1-7

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*Four Truths about Marital Intimacy:*

**1. Men, your body is for your wife.**

1. The Polluted Waters of Our Culture.
  - Men are applauded for their prowess. Women are valued for their physical attractiveness.
2. How selfishness comes out in men: “I have needs that need to be met.”
  - Men, we cannot selfishly point to physiological differences as a cop-out.
3. We are called to love our wives as Jesus loves the church.
  - Ephesians 5:22-33
  - How does Jesus love the Church? (first, sacrificially, forever)

**2. Women, your body is for your husband.**

1. How selfishness comes out in women: Using sex or your body as a tool to punish or manipulate.
  - 1 Timothy 2:8-10
  - Message by C.J. Mahaney: “The Soul of Modesty”
2. Defensiveness because of the sins of a sex-obsessed male dominated culture.
  - I understand the defensiveness and vulnerability that many women feel. But consider, you are allowing the brokenness of man to dictate and hold more sway in your life than the Word of God.
3. Serving your husband both emotionally and physically.
  - Takes joyful delight in adoring her husband modeling how the church adores Jesus.

*Pause and consider a few things:*

1. Completely contrary Mindset to how this world.

2. Question: Does this apply to me if I’m single?—Yes. Your body is for God, not you. 1C 6:19-20.

**3. Marital intimacy guards our hearts from sin.**

1. A mutually serving sexual relationship between husband and wife protects us.
2. How temptation grabs men: It is a more acute and physical lust.
  - Causes dissatisfaction with your wife.
3. How temptation grabs women: It is a more emotional lust.
  - Broken displays of masculinity via Hollywood pollute the female soul.
  - Causes dissatisfaction with your husband.
4. Be sober-minded, much is at stake.
  - 1 Peter 5:8
5. Do you see the battle here? We are tempted to consume and cater to self first.

#### **4. Marital intimacy glorifies God and displays the Gospel.**

1. All truth must be tethered to the far greater truth of the Gospel.
  - The Christian life is not comprised of individual silos.
  - Romans 11:36
2. Intimacy with our spouse glorifies God.
  - 1 Corinthians 6:20
3. This truth is not merely for examination and application but for exaltation and adoration.
  - Eating a steak should cause us to praise God.
  - Making love to our spouse should cause us to praise God.
  - Idolatry happens when we let pleasure dead end on itself and worship created over Creator.

#### **Some Encouragements and Exhortations:**

1. To the frustrated and less the fulfilled married couple:  
Husband: How might I serve you better?  
Wife: How might I serve you better?  
*\*Consider reading Sex and the Supremacy of Christ together (chapters for husbands and wives)*  
*\*Men, initiating this is your responsibility.*
2. To the married or single person engaged in sexual activity outside of marriage:  
Repent. Turn from sin and to God. Do not presume upon God's grace. Don't think you can always repent later. You never know: the next time you blatantly sin may be the time the Lord gives you over to the hardness of your heart. Repentance is a gift that God alone gives, not something you muster up in your will power.

#### Books referenced at beginning of the message:

1. Sex and the Supremacy of Christ (edited by John Piper and Justin Taylor)
2. Sex, Romance, and the Glory of God (C.J. Mahaney)