

BiG iDEA SMALL GROUP DiSCUSSiON GiDE

Small groups that focus on the Big Idea for the week can use this guide to apply the message to life and take action. Feel free to use whatever parts of this guide best fit your group personality and time frame. All verses, unless otherwise noted, are from the New International Version (NIV).

5/2-3/09 // FIREPROOF MY MARRIAGE: BETTER SEX
**BiG iDEA: God made sex good for husbands and wives,
and selfless love makes it even better.**

// Ice Breaker _____

Option 1: Describe how you got your "sex talk" from your parents.

**Option 2: Who was your first boyfriend or girlfriend that you can remember?
Who is the first person you ever kissed? Who is the first person who broke your heart?**

// Questions for Discussion _____

1 How were your ideas about sex formed? What has been your main influences?

2 How does discussing sex in a spiritual or church setting make you feel? Do you feel that same way discussing sex in other social settings? Why do you think there's a difference, especially when the Bible speaks so much about sex?

3 Why do you think our culture is obsessed with sex? Has more and more public discussion of sex been a good thing or bad thing? Is sex something we've made more important than it was intended to be?

4 How important is sex to the marital relationship?

1 Corinthians 7:1-5

¹Now for the matters you wrote about: It is good for a man not to marry. ²But since there is so much immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. ³The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. ⁴The wife's body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband's body does not belong to him alone but also to his wife. ⁵Do not deprive each other except by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

5 Do you think sex problems are really about sex, or something else? How?

6 How is there something deeper going in sex than just skin on skin?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:16-20

¹⁶Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." ¹⁷But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

¹⁸Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. ¹⁹Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

7 Why is it so difficult to keep your mind clean, your heart pure and your body holy? Where do you find it to be the most difficult? What are some practical ways to deal with this?

8 How have you seen people who've chosen infidelity pay the price for their actions? How have you witnessed that sexual mistakes can be more painful and damaging than other mistakes?

9 Thankfully, through Jesus Christ there is forgiveness, healing and restoration for whatever sexual sins we've committed. We can come to a place of wholeness in our sexuality. How can we develop a healthy sexuality and live a life of sexual purity?

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

9Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders ¹⁰nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

// Application _____

Commit to memory Hebrews 13:4

Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.

For further study from a Christian perspective, check out these books:

- *Sheet Music* by Dr. Kevin Leman
- *Crazy Good Sex* by Les Parrott
- *Intended for Pleasure* by Ed & Gaye Wheat
- *The Gift of Sex* by Clifford & Joyce Penner
- *His Needs Her Needs* by Willard Harley
- *Turn Up the Heat* by Kevin Leman
- *A Celebration of Sex* by Douglas Rosenau
- *Intimate Issues : 21 Questions Christian Women Ask About Sex* by Linda Dillow
- *No More Headaches* by Julianna Slattery
- *Every Man's Battle* by Stephen Afterburn
- *Every Woman's Battle* by Shannon Ethridge

// Prayer _____

**Pray that you remain pure.
Pray for forgiveness.**