



## HOLY SEX AND MARRIAGE

### 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 10.03.21

**BIG IDEA:** God's design for marriage and sexuality is holy and beautiful. When we turn away from his plan, we invite pain and brokenness.

#### **Foundations: Genesis 2:23-25** NIV

The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."

For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

**Gen.1:31** God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

#### **Why is Marriage So Sacred?**

**Marriage is God's institution—not humankind's.**

**Marriage is designed to portray Christ and his Bride.**

Eph. 5:25-28 Rev. 19:6-9

**Marriage is a covenant that mirrors God's covenant with us.**

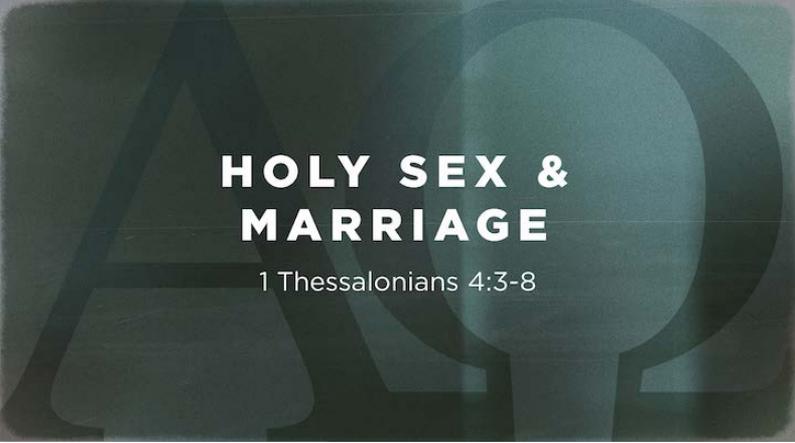
#### **Counterfeit Arrangements:**

Cohabitation, Serial Marriages, Same-sex Marriages

**Marriage is the only holy context for sexual relations.**

#### **1 Thessalonians 4:3-8** NIV

It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit.



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## **BIG IDEA**

God's design for marriage and sexuality is holy and beautiful. When we turn away from his plan, we invite pain and brokenness.

The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man."

### **GENESIS 2:23 NIV**

For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

### **GENESIS 2:24-25 NIV**

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

### **GENESIS 1:31**

Marriage is God's  
institution—not humankind's.

Marriage is designed to  
portray Christ and his Bride.



"Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty  
reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and  
give him glory! For the wedding of the  
Lamb has come, and his bride has made  
herself ready.

**REVELATION 19:6-7**

Marriage is a covenant  
that mirrors God's  
covenant with us.

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

#### **HEBREWS 13:4**

Marriage is the only  
holy context for  
sexual relations.

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### **1 THESSALONIANS 4:3-5 NIV**

and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.

### **1 THESSALONIANS 4:6-7 NIV**

Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit.

### **1 THESSALONIANS 4:8 NIV**

**BE HOLY.**

You cannot be both set apart  
and sexually immoral. (3)



**BE IN CONTROL.**

You can learn to control  
your body. (4-5)

**BE RESPONSIBLE.**

You will hurt the one that  
you use for immorality. (6)

**BE WARNED.**

You cannot escape  
the consequences of  
immorality. (6-8)

