

Parenting in a Sexual Culture October 15, 2017

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- Hark at the Center for Collaborative Care
- Oaks Counseling
- Fellowship Fayetteville Family
- Grew up in a home that almost never talked about sex

SEX IS GOD'S STORY

How beautiful you are and how pleasing, my love, with your delights!

Your stature is like that of the palm, and your breasts like clusters of fruit.

I said, "I will climb the palm tree; I will take hold of its fruit."

May your breasts be like clusters of grapes on the vine, the fragrance of your breath like apples, and your mouth like the best wine.

May the wine go straight to my beloved, flowing gently over lips and teeth.

I belong to my beloved, and his desire is for me.

Come, my beloved, let us go to the countryside, let us spend the night in the villages. Let us go early to the vineyards to see if the vines have budded, if their blossoms have opened, and if the pomegranates are in bloom—there I will give you my love.

Song of Songs 7:6-12

****Secular society has stolen what belongs to the Lord,
we must reclaim it!****

NOTES

CONVERSATIONS ABOUT SEX WITH OUR KIDS

- Your kids are a part of or around conversations about sex every day. Are their parents participating in any of them?
- Be honest and overt about the conversation being awkward and uncomfortable.
- Paint a picture across a lifetime - not just high school.
- Share a piece of your sexual story.
- Goal: Use conversations to write God's story about sex on the hearts of your children.

SHAME IS THE ANTITHESIS OF GOD'S STORY OF SEX

- Satan is using shame to keep believers from talking about sex.....and it is an effective strategy.
- In our conversations we must try to avoid building shame.
- Shame makes us silent, makes sex feel wrong, and builds more shame.
- Consequences will likely be necessary - use low emotion, low word count.
- Your children are on their own sexual journey - how will we impact their hearts as parents?

POSITIVES AND NEGATIVES

- There is a wild unbalance in the Christian conversation about sex with our kids.
- Heavy deposits of negative narrative contribute to shame building.
- Appropriate deposits of positive narrative create a God honoring world view and desire set about sex.
- Desire set: Chemicals, the brain, and a moving target
- From 95/5 to 75/25

CONVERSATIONAL DOS AND DON'TS

- Do frame this as an ongoing conversation.
- Do use real anatomy words
- Do use self disclosure
- Do pray during these conversations
- Do use 3rd person language
- Do ask what their friends are saying/talking about sex
- Do favor same gender conversations
- Don't try to check a box on this one

- Don't run if it gets really awkward
- Don't have this conversation in front of your other kids (1on1)
- Don't make lots of jokes
- Don't treat this as one size fits all
- Don't focus solely on this season of life only
- Don't let anything on this list keep you from getting started!!

**BUT BEFORE YOU START
ANY OF THAT...**

THE AUTHENTIC PARENTING DILEMMA

- If your life does not match your words, your words will not land in the hearts of your children.
- As much as you want healthy sexuality for your children, God even more so wants it for you.
- You can not take your children where you are not willing to go yourself.
- Start working on your own stuff today, the God of the universe loves you and wants you to be sexually healthy.