



## **Sermon Discussion Questions**

**Sunday, November 6, 2011 in Huntersville**

**Sunday, November 13, 2011 in Davidson**

**Closing Loopholes**

### **Note to Group Leaders:**

**This sermon was preached on November 6 at LFC-Huntersville and November 13 at LFC-Davidson.**

### **Introduce it:**

Group Leaders can introduce this study in one of two ways: I'd recommend the second. The first is the way my Psychology teacher in College introduced the topic of sex. They had everyone in the class (350 people), say as loud as they could the words "penis" and "vagina" 5 times each. Imagine what the classes down the hall were thinking. So, feel free to open this topic that way (or you can just read this suggestion and then introduce the second way).

The second way is to ask folks how the topic of sex was handled in their home as they grew up. Was it talked about? Did your parents have "the talk" with you? Did your parents show affection in front of you?

For those that have kids, how have you addressed it in your home?

### **Revisit it: learn the passage preached on.**

Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-7:9

Though this passage speaks of uniting with a prostitute, what all do we learn in this passage about the power of sex? Specifically list the things we learn in 6:16-20 and 7:1-5.

For the single person, who else does their body belong to? How does this affect the way they approach sex?

For the married person, who else does their body belong to? How does this affect the way they approach sex?

Paul says, "I wish all men were as I am." speaking of his singleness and then he encourages singles to remain single if they have self control. Paul and Michael Flake addressed singleness and marriage both as being gifts from God.

In what ways does singleness give greater freedom and time to serve Christ? In what ways can marriage give a deeper understanding of intimacy with Christ?

What are some of the loopholes that our culture keeps open around the topic of sex? In other words, what excuses do people give for not waiting till marriage to have sex? In what ways do these actions keep us further from our Shepherd as opposed to closer?

Michael made this comment, "the highest level of intimacy would only happen in the highest level of commitment." For those that are married, in what ways does seeing and knowing your spouses commitment to you increase the level of intimacy? In what ways can your spouse show their level of commitment in better ways?

### **Use it: don't just learn the passage but use it.**

For everyone: If our bodies belong to God, what ways can you appropriately show love to another this week through touch or speech? Find one way this week to intentionally use your body to love another in a way that shows them that God loves them.

For those dating or engaged: When will you sit and talk this week to make sure that the boundaries you have in place display, "honor for God with your body." Are there ways this community group can encourage you and help you keep those boundaries?

For those married: When will you sit and talk this week about ways that you can increase the way you communicate commitment (are you working too much, focused on the kids too much, more committed to other things than your spouse)? How can this group help make sure you keep boundaries in place to keep commitment strong?

For all: If this topic has stirred places that are painful and places in your life that a lot of damage has been done, please feel free to contact one of the pastors at Lake Forest and let us help connect you to counselors that can assist healing in this area. God longs for healing for you and/or your spouse.

**Remember it: memorize a verse that helps you to remember and use it.**

The author of Hebrews makes a comment to singles and those that are married. Use this as your memory verse this week:

*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."*

Write this on a piece of paper and put it on your mirror and in your car. Use it to begin discussion with your children about God's desire for their bodies to always honor him.