

It's complicate^d

Big Idea

Pastor Brett – Part 4

This week, we continued the series entitled “**It’s Complicated.**” Relationships get complicated when we step outside God’s plan. In this fourth part of the series, Pastor Brett shared with us that secrecy destroys intimacy in relationships. He also shared how to destroy the lie with the truth of God’s Word. He described the downward cycle of sexual sin starting with a temptation that looks appealing but is actually a hook of death. When we are exposed to sexual impurity, we sustain mental damage, we become sexual confused, and we can experience periods of sexual sobriety followed by sexual binges.

How do we break free from the downward devastating sexual sin cycle? Pastor Brett described three steps, **1) bounce our eyes, 2) capture sinful thoughts, and 3) run for our lives.** We must turn our passion away from sin and onto Jesus. Many of us have regrets about our past, but God makes all things new and offers us a fresh start. From this point forward, your life and relationship can follow His vision for Godly sex. God's way sets a standard and also provides the means to meet that standard: Jesus died to resolve our failures, the Bible illuminates our lives in the standard, and the Holy Spirit empowers us to live life by His standard. Remember- holiness isn't reserved for perfect people, it is for people who have been forgiven. Left unchecked, sexual sin will become a life dominating passion affecting everything and destroying everything. **In order for relationships to work, let the One who designed them define them.**

Discussion Questions

- What are some ways the world's script of sex conflicts with God's design of sex?
- What harm have you heard about or experienced resulting from secrecy and/or sexual sin?
- Pastor Brett said, “Secrecy is the enemy of intimacy.” Why?
- What does James 1:13-15 say about temptation, sin, and death?
- Have you ever had to run from sexual temptation? What did that feel like? What did it look like?
- What is your life dominating passion that affects everything you do?
- What actions might a person take to silence the devil's narrative in their relationships?

Prayer Focus

Ask God to silence the devil's lies about sex and replace them with His truths about Godly sex. Ask God to develop, protect, and grow your relationships with others.

Next Steps

Assess where you are in your spiritual walk and identify any areas where you have sexual impurities. Make a commitment to turn from those ways from this point forward. Don't dwell on the past and beat yourself up - this is a fresh start! There is no one too far gone that Jesus can't make brand new.

Leader Tip

Encourage your group to point out and repent from any sexual impurities in their life. Discuss practical ways to do this such as having a conversation with their current love interest, cutting off certain relationships, avoiding media like certain channels, movies, TV shows, music, websites, social media, etc.