

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this right now by building our own building on the land just north of us.

There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If it gets too hot, we may hand out popsicles to help you cool off and give you a sugar rush. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15 am service. Please understand that all of these "challenges" are because of our love for Jesus, people, and growth that has come quickly. These are good things. We hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here. If you would like more information about our building process or how you can participate, you can visit: www.elementroots.org.

- The Element Team

UPCOMING EVENTS: CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS

Saturday, December 17th

Donations, service opportunities and family recommendations at the Welcome Center
www.ourelement.org/cfk

REDEMPTION GROUPS

Begins February 3rd

Learn more and fill out an application at
ourelement.org/redemption

CHRISTMAS EVE

Services: 7, 9 & 11pm

Childcare at 7pm only.
No Sunday services on Christmas Day.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Do you have a *What in the World?* question you'd like us to answer?

Ask us at:

www.ourelement.org/what?



WHAT!

— IN THE — WORLD?

1 CORINTHIANS 7:1-4

GENESIS 2:24

ROMANS 12:2

2 SAMUEL 12:24

JEREMIAH 2:13

1 CORINTHIANS

PROVERBS 5:19

6:15-17, 20

GENESIS 1:28

NINE:

DON'T TOUCH? — 1 CORINTHIANS 7:1-4 —

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Just like our great God gave His son for our sins so we can be redeemed and understand the truth and grace He calls us into, we cannot have a redeemed view of intimacy without a redeemed heart and life. Today we cover Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 6 and 7 because the ultimate point about life and intimacy is knowing Jesus. We must come to the place where our lives are surrendered to Jesus' grace and love or what we learn in the Scriptures will never make sense to us.

Sexual purity is difficult. What happens if you have failed or are currently struggling? Don't get discouraged; have hope! Jesus has promised to love, heal, and receive us. Jesus can take all of our past and make our lives into something beautiful. He redeems all that we have been through and incorporates all of who we will be into what He knows will bring Him the most glory (and us the most joy). *1 Corinthians 6:20: You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.*

The Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 6 and 7 argues against the two leading views of sexuality in his day; we would call these the prudish and the pagan. One side said sexual intimacy was gross and shouldn't be talked about (the prudish). To the prudish, Paul says sex is beautiful. The other side (the pagan) he said that sex was just like your appetite, if you get hungry you should eat...so if you feel frisky you should have sex. To the pagan Paul says sex is a picture of God's relationship with humanity and it should be treasured in a committed union inside of marriage.

We must begin to see and embrace why the Bible says sex is for a permanent and fully committed relationship; a relationship in which your whole self (mind, will, and emotions) is completely committed to someone else. Sex is a model of our relationship with God in that we have total love and submission to Him. In our union with God joy should result; in our union with another person joy should result as well.

INTRODUCTION

Just like our great God gave His Son for our sins so that we can be redeemed and understand the truth and grace into which He calls us, so we cannot have a redeemed view of sex and intimacy without a redeemed heart/life.

DISCUSSION

How does our culture treat and view sex and sexuality?

EXPLANATION

In scripture there are multiple views of sex. Christianity believes that sex is given to us so we can experience pleasure, have children, become one with another, comfort, and protection.

What are good reasons for waiting until marriage in order to have sexual union with another person?

Why is it so hard to wait?

APPLICATION - Read 1 Corinthians 7:1-4

What do you think is healthy sexuality? Why?

What do you think sexual immorality is?

What is your understanding of sexuality and Christianity?

MISSION

In what ways are both celibacy and marriage gifts from God?

How does healthy sexuality reflect God's goodness to the world?

How can we live in a way that we show a proper understanding of healthy sexuality?