

ST MATTHEWS SMALL GROUP STUDIES:

EVERYDAY MORALITY STUDY 3:

SEX OUTSIDE OF MARRAIGE

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# Everyday Morality: Sex outside of marriage

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Arm up: Who has read song of songs? What does it tell us about sex?

Study

# 3

## Bible

### 1. Read Romans 1:28-32

- What 'types' of sins are listed here?
- What types of sins had he been talking about (look back at 24-27)?
- Why is sin serious?

### 2. Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

- What is 'fornication'?
- Read Matthew 15:17-20. What does Jesus think of fornication?
- Why are 'body sins' so dangerous (18)
- Do you 'glorify God with your body'? (20)
- What does repenting of sexual sin mean?

### 3. Read Genesis 2:24.

- What does becoming 'one flesh' mean? When does that happen?
- Read Deuteronomy 22:13-15. What does this imply about people's sexual state before marriage?
- Read 1 Corinthians 7:8-9. What's Paul's advice for those who are not married but having sex?

4. Read Genesis 4:1 & 1 Samuel 1:19. Why does the bible use the verb 'to know' to refer to sex? What application can you make from that?

5. What standard of 'holiness' is expected amongst Christians (Eph 5:3); Christian leaders (Titus 1:6)?

## Tough Questions

Apply what you know from the scripture and have learnt above to the following issues...

1. **People are sexually mature** at about 12-14; but our marrying age is about 30 on average. In the bible people were sexually mature at 15 and married at 16. Does this make any difference? Should Christians marry younger? What's wrong with getting married at 20?
2. **Why** do you think Australia has a 'registry of (births, deaths &) marriages'?
3. Does a wedding need to be a **public** event? (cf. John 2; Mal 2;14)?
4. Why do you think people see **living together** as 'preparation' for or a lesser commitment *than* marriage?

**Apply...**

**I**magine talking to someone over tea and coffee after church and they ask you the following questions (all these questions are similar to ones I've had to deal with!)

**a.** "We're new here and have been living together for 3 years, is that ok by your church?" What would you say?

**b.** "I'm 16 and I just want to have sex...I don't care about commitment...my body just wants sex?" What would you say?

**c.** A vestry member says, "my friend's marriage is a sham – there's been no love there for ages – I've been sleeping with the husband for 10 years." What would you say?

**d.** "We want to wait to buy a house before we get married, so we are living together." What would you say?

**e.** A couple who are living together offer to teach Sunday club. What would you say?