

# Music

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# What Does the Bible Say about Secular Music?

## Philippians 4:8

- <sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

## Promoting God vs Self-Amplifier

- **Christian music promotes God, while secular music is focused on self (what you feel, want, etc.)**
- **As a Christian are we living for our self or God?**
- **When you take the title Christian you make the commitment to LIVE for God, not yourself. Don't you think the music you listen to should align to your lifestyle commitment.**



# Protect Your Mind...


**As Christians, we should protect our mind from things that are not pure. We should avoid music that leads us to think about untrue, dishonorable, unadmirable, unlovely, or impure things.**

**If we claim to be godly, we have to follow godly requirements. As your relationship with Christ matures, you will only want to hear things that promote Him (there will be no compromise).**

**Examine yourself and ask God to help you not have a desire for secular music and to help you imitate Him. The more we feel ourselves with things of Him, the easier it is to imitate Him.**


# Christian music comes in all shapes and forms

- No matter what type of melody or beat you like God has blessed many Christian artists to give it to you... God is superior and there is no one or nothing higher than Him, He has created musical artists better than any secular artist...Seek and Find them
- Christian artist suggestions: Detrick Hadden (Smooth Gospel), Lecrae (Gospel Truth), Canton Jones (Smooth Gospel), Mali Music (Smooth Gospel), Da Truth (Gospel Truth), Tedashii (Gospel Truth), Tye Trippet (Smooth Gospel)



# Sex “Abstinence Works”

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# What does the Bible Say about SEX?

- **1 Thessalonians 4:3-8** 3It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; 4that each of you should learn to control his own body[a] in a way that is holy and honorable, 5not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; 6and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. 7For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. 8Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit.

# Why Wait...Because God Says So...He knows best!

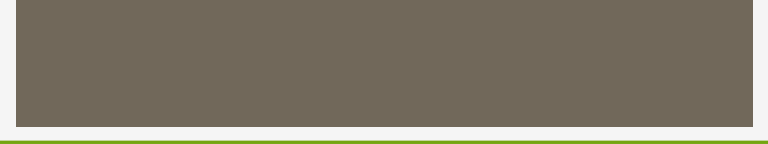
- ◉ **Waiting until marriage to have sex is the best way to enjoy life as God intended. There are good reasons behind God's instruction which improves relationship building and also safeguards our physical, mental and spiritual health. Avoiding sex before marriage is possible by seeking out the strength of Christ.**





When started, Sex was not meant to be stopped, that is why it is made for marriage...

- **Abstinence from sex until marriage is key for building intimate and long lasting relationships. It draws two people closer together emotionally and is a special time when each person can spend time getting to know one another. The desire to avoid sex before marriage encourages self control which ultimately demonstrates trust to a partner. In turn this trust allows vulnerability towards each other producing a fruitful and intimate relationship.**



Sex in a relationship does not build a relationship and is not a natural aspect of a non-marital relationship... don't be fooled

- **A relationship with a regular pattern of lust tends to build upon the outward reflections of a person rather than focusing on character. Getting to know someone on the inside is one of the most important aspects of a successful relationship. Promiscuity degrades trust because it lacks self control and tends to view sex and people more casually. Sex is a sacred and beautiful part of marriage, and shouldn't be seen as a casual act to satisfy superficial desires and insecurities**

# SEX is about commitment and emotional investment...

- Here we can see that the married couple would have an intimate relationship because they share a level of relating that exists with no other person apart from their spouse (marriage partner). Sex defines marriage and to have sex with someone other than the spouse would be adultery (cheating on the spouse). Sex gives meaning to the marriage because limiting sex to one partner, which is the spouse, expresses commitment and encourages the couple to invest emotionally in each other because they know they will remain together until death they depart.

# Strings are attached whether you want them to be or not with Sex

- <sup>15</sup> Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! <sup>16</sup> Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh."<sup>[a]</sup>

1 Corinthians 6: 15-16

- It's obvious that one should avoid having sex with a prostitute, but is it because she is a prostitute or because of the acts that are carried out? A prostitute is known for having sex with more than one person without any strings attached, and more specifically commitment is not a prerequisite for sex. There is no condition for a prostitute to be committed to one person now or in the future, doing so would hinder their profession.
- Christ loves and died for us so that we can receive God's grace and the gift of eternal life. There is no distinction between prostitutes or law abiding citizens or people that hold a higher social status. The purpose of 1 Corinthians 6.15-16 is not to pick on prostitutes, but to talk about their actions as an example of sexual immorality, in which all people, and not just prostitutes, experience temptation to sin (or do things their own way, instead of God's way).

## Sex bonds you to a person because it was designed to, that type of connection is reserved for you and your marital partner

- From 1 Corinthians 6.-15-16 we see that when a man and a woman have sex they become like one person, and in Proverbs 5.15-17 we know that marriage involves staying together like one person because there is no departure from the spouse until one passes away. The two verses point out that one should not have sex with any person until there is commitment until death do they depart. To have sex before marriage would be like having sex with a prostitute in the sense that there is no commitment involved. Marriage is the way of declaring to God, yourself, your partner and your friends and family that you will remain with your partner until the end of your short life in this world.
- Marriage involves two people willingly committing themselves to each other until one dies (emotional commitment), joining together as one in the act of sex (physical commitment) and God carrying out his part in the spiritual realm (spiritual commitment).

# Facts that support Abstinence is the best way...

- **Premarital sex and regret.** Most teenage boys who have sex regret losing their virginity. Almost 3/4 of teenage girls who have sex regret losing their virginity. Source: Centre for Reclaiming America (2003)
- **Promiscuity degrades fruitful relationships.** Teenagers who submit to sex before marriage are likely to experience lower self-respect, fear of commitment and depression. Source: Tom and Judy Lickona, *Sex, Love and You*, (Notre Dame: Ave Maria Press, 1994), 62-77.
- **Link between premarital sex and sadness.** Sexually active boys are more than twice as likely to have depression and almost ten times more likely to attempt suicide. Teenage girls who have premarital sex are three times more likely to have depression than girls who aren't sexually active. Also, teenage girls who are sexually active are almost three times more likely to attempt suicide than those who aren't sexually active. Source: Family Research Council (2003)
- **Saying "no" to sex.** 85% of sexually experienced teenage girls want to "know how to say no without hurting the other person's feeling". Source: Family First (2003)

# Resisting Sex Before Marriage is Possible and Profitable...If you fall get up... Don't Let the Enemy Trick You

- It doesn't matter what sins we have committed in the past. It's about who we are now that matters to God and makes us the people we are. Resisting sex before marriage will bring healthy benefits and allow a person to be more Christ centered. If we belong to Jesus then we will inherit eternal life and the blessings of God's kingdom.
- Satan tries to prevent people from hearing God's truth and inheriting eternal life by distracting them with sin. For those who are Christians, he will attempt to turn them away from God. A method Satan uses is to make them feel unworthy because of the sin they commit. Don't be discouraged by these traps! By God's mercy and our faith in Jesus we are made acceptable to God, not by obedience. However that is no excuse to do whatever we want.
- With the power of the Holy Spirit, a person can resist sex before marriage. The Holy Spirit refers to God's Spirit, who lives in believers. Paul (apostle of Christ) explained the work of the Holy Spirit: ' we must not live to satisfy our desires. If you do, you will die. But you will live, if by the help of God's Spirit you say "No" to your desires. Only those who are led by God's Spirit are his children. God's Spirit doesn't make us slaves who are afraid of him. Instead, we become his children and call him our Father ' (Romans 8.12-15). So by the power of God's Spirit a person can live a new life that they have not known before.

# Practical ways to avoid Sex before marriage

- Christians have the Holy Spirit because of God's grace and their faith in Jesus Christ. A Christian is someone who has made an agreement with God through prayer. The agreement involves a person: 1. Admit you have sinned and need forgiveness to restore their relationship with God 2. Accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior
- The desire to avoid temptation produces discipline, strength, clear thought and most of all the character of love. Furthermore think of other ways you could both have a good time.
- Finding ways apart from sex to relate to your partner will improve the relationship. Try using your time before marriage to learn how to please your partner emotionally without sexual activity.
- A man will not pressure his partner into sexual activity, but look out for their best interest. Many women find it hard to say no, even when they prefer to wait until marriage.
- Demonstrating that you want to avoid sex before marriage can earn trust from your partner.
- Expressing beautiful character without sexuality will contribute to bonding and a more stable relationship.
- A woman has to be careful not to seduce a man... it can be very easy to appeal to the physical temptations which a man experiences. A woman shouldn't encourage a man to consider what she wouldn't otherwise; she needs to be aware of her actions