Whatever Became of Sex? Living by the Maker's Instructions

Sex is a powerful force for creativity and goodness or destructiveness and evil. It can give us a taste of heaven or hell. It seems as if there are no boundaries and "anything goes" in this culture. Can we know what is good or healthy? The Bible has much to say about sexuality and we will explore some of the major themes to find some guidelines. Amazingly the apostle Paul says that sex gives us a foretaste of a coming intimacy between us and our divine lover – God himself!

Richard Winter is one of the leaders of the European Christian Counsellors Network. He is Professor Emeritus of Practical Theology and Counselling at Covenant Theological Seminary in St Louis, USA. He is also a psychotherapist and counsellor who was trained in medicine and psychiatry in England before being on the staff and a director of the English branch of the L'Abri Fellowship for 14 years. He is the author of books on boredom, depression, perfectionism, and reproductive technologies. He is married, with four children and eight grandchildren.

I. Genesis 1-3

- A. Procreation, Companionship and Beyond
- B. Married sex v. Porn/Solo Sex

II. The Law (Leviticus, Deuteronomy...)

A. Boundaries

III. Proverbs, David, Joseph, Gomer

A. Warnings

IV. The Song of Songs

A. A High view of Sex

V. Principled Boundaries

VI. Casual Sex divides...

VII. Sex points beyond itself ...

A. to the deepest intimacy possible

Suggested Reading:

Divine Sex: A Compelling Vision for Christian Relationships in a Hypersexualized Age, Jonathan Grant, Brazos Press, 2015 Angry Birds and Killer Bees: Talking to your kids about sex. Todd Bowman, Beacon Hill Press, 2013

Real Sex: The Naked Truth about Chastity, Lauren Winner, Zondervan, 2006 Soul Virgins: Reclaiming Single Sexuality. Doug Rosenau and Michael Todd Wilson A Celebration of Sex: A Guide to Enjoying God's Gift of Sexual Intimacy. Douglas Rosenau, Thomas Nelson, 2002

Healing the Wounds of Sexual Addiction, Mark Laaser, 2004

Homosexuality and the Christian: A guide for parents, pastors and friends. Mark Yarhouse M (2010) Bethany House Publishing.