

Group Discussion Guide: Dear Church | August 28, 2022

Begin with prayer (10 minutes).

To begin your time together, use the **Prayer of Humility** below to help center your time on God. To do so, send the prayer out to your group (via text, email, GroupMe, etc.) so everyone has access to it. Then, give your group a few moments to pray in silence and respond to the prompts.

“Lord, I ask that You would prepare my heart for our meeting today.”

“Help me to see each member as You see them.”

*Recall the name and face of each individual in the group.
Ask for God’s help to see each one for who they are, without judgment.*

“Help me to hear each member in truth.”

*As you think of each individual, ask God for the ability to listen intently.
Acknowledge any personal struggles or personality conflicts with others.
Talk these struggles or conflicts over with God.
Ask for a way to listen without hindrance.*

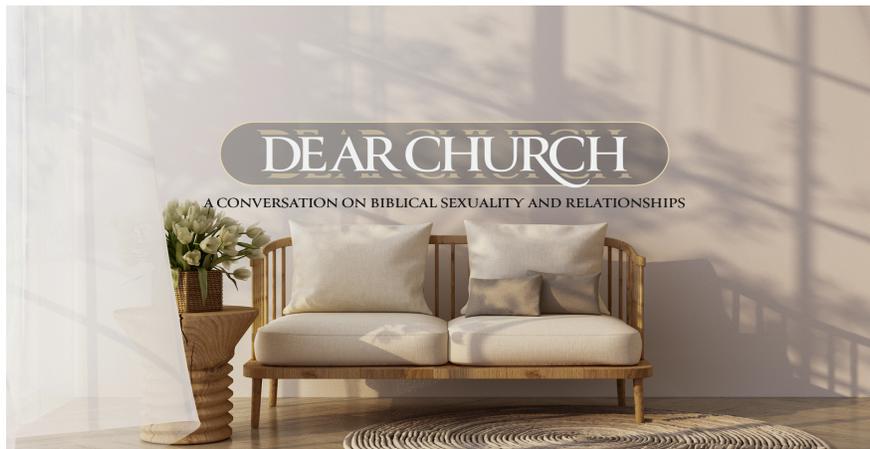
“Help me to respond in love.”

*Affirm your desire for God to guide the meeting.
Admit your limitations to fix the problems and struggles of others.
Acknowledge your inability to fully understand any one person’s story.
Ask God to draw each member closer to His love through the meeting.*

Once you’ve finished praying, as the host, pray aloud for your group time together.

Read Scripture and debrief the sermon (30 minutes).

Select a few of these questions to help you discuss the sermon. You may even come up with a few questions that would be good for your specific group to discuss.



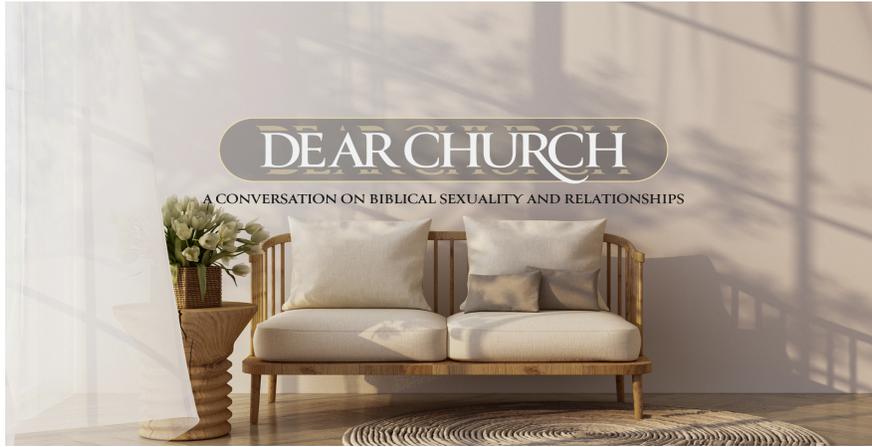
- Consider your posture coming into this sermon series on biblical sexuality. Do you sense openness in yourself? Are you feeling closed-off? Explain.
- In this message, Dan began with this question: “By show of hands, how many people learned about sex in such a way that was so wholesome and so helpful that they hope one day their children learn about it that way?” Would you be able to raise your hand to that question? Why or why not?
- Describe the view of sexuality that you grew up with. What influences led to that understanding?
- How does that view compare or contrast with the vision for biblical sexuality laid out by Dan in this message?
- In what ways might a biblical view of sexuality begin to heal your current or previous views of it?
- In this message, Dan said God’s vision for sexuality is more challenging, more dignifying, and more satisfying than other views. Which of these three points resonated with you most? Why?
- **Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-20.** What does Paul tell the Corinthians in this passage about desire, the body, and sexual immorality?
- What does it mean when Paul says that the person who is sexually immoral “sins against their own body” (**verse 18**) and when he says that “your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit” (**verse 19**)? How do passages like **Romans 1:24** and **Romans 8:23** relate to what Paul says here to the Corinthians?
- In your opinion, what is a takeaway from this sermon and this text?

Split into accountability groups (20 minutes).

Take some time to split into gendered groups and ask, “If Paul was writing this letter to you today, what aspect of these verses do you think he’d want to draw your attention to? Why?”

Once everyone has shared, spend the rest of your time in your gendered groups, praying over and with one another.

- Have one person pray that God would reveal Himself and grow you through this series.
- Have another person pray that God’s grace, love, and mercy would be abundantly present to your group throughout this series.



- Have another person pray that each person in your group would be open to what God's Word might say regarding the topic of sexuality throughout this series.

Come back together as a large group. Finish with intercessory prayer (10 minutes).

Like each week, finish your group session with prayer. You might designate someone in your group to write down everyone's prayer requests and then send them to the whole group for everyone to be praying about through the week.

- What is on your heart that you need prayer for?
- Who in your life needs prayer?

Have someone close your time together by interceding for the requests that were shared.