

## A TIME WHEN NOTHING IS SACRED AND SOULS SETTLE FOR LESS

In this age of anything goes in regards to love and sex, the campus is awash with myths about the area of human relationships. Unfortunately these myths can have heartbreaking consequences and even God's people have compromised and settled for less than His best in this area. Today we want to allow our hearts to meditate on the beauty and sanctity of relationships lived out God's way. To do this, we will need to break through the campus myths about love and sex. Budziszewski breaks these myths into three categories: general myths (the ones men and women are equally likely to fall for), girl myths (the ones women are more likely to fall for), and guy myths (the ones men are more likely to fall for.) **Once again, be careful, you may actually believe some of these yourself!**

### GENERAL MYTHS

#### LOVE IS A FEELING, AND SEX IS THE ADULT WAY TO EXPRESS IT

If Love is simply a feeling, how could someone pledge to love someone for life?

You can't promise a feeling. Feelings change, and marriage vows are silly if love is just a feeling

How does the author define love?

Love is a commitment of the will to the true good of another person (Budziszewski page 82)

Why is marriage the adult way to express love?

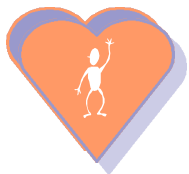
It is entering into a binding promise—a commitment to the other person, not just a commitment to our selfish interests.



#### SEX IS LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE; IN ORDER TO MAKE WISE CHOICES ABOUT IT, YOU HAVE TO EXPERIENCE IT.

Is it true that "all things" need to be experienced in order for you to make a wise choice about them? What are some examples of things that you don't need to experience in order to make wise decisions about them?

No it is not true, drugs, suicide, and many other sins we don't need to experience to make wise decisions about



#### WITHOUT SEX, YOU'LL NEVER KNOW WHETHER YOU'RE COMPATIBLE WITH SOMEONE; WITHOUT LIVING TOGETHER, YOU'LL NEVER KNOW WHETHER A MARRIAGE BETWEEN YOU WOULD WORK.

Is divorce more common among couples who do not live together before marriage?

Not at all, it is the exact opposite. The reason is that a trial situation before marriage has no commitment, marriage does. **Read gray box on page 84 for emphasis!**

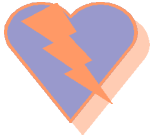
"LIVING TOGETHER WITHOUT A BINDING COMMITMENT IS LESS LIKE TRAINING FOR MARRIAGE AND MORE LIKE TRAINING FOR DIVORCE (BUDZISZEWSKI PAGE 83, PARAPHRASED)"

Is sexual style a learned or inborn behavior?

It is learned. When unmarried people talk about compatibility it is usually just talking about their "sexual habits" matching those of others.

Read passage of the book about "sexual habits" beginning with "When unmarried people"



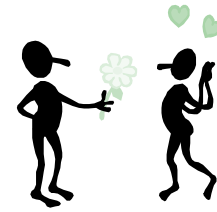
**GIRL MYTHS — ABOVE ALL ELSE GUARD YOUR HEART—PROVERBS 4:23****SEX OUTSIDE OF MARRIAGE IS ROMANTIC**

What is very unromantic about “hooking up”?

How do you really want a man to treat you?

If in a co-ed group, let the guys hear from the ladies on this one.

Note for the guys: “There’s a difference between being a “john” and being a man”



THE GUY THAT SAYS “I LOVE YOU” IN ORDER FOR YOU TO GIVE INTO HIS PHYSICAL DESIRES IS REALLY SAYING “I LOVE ME, BUT I WANT YOU.”

**SEX OUTSIDE OF MARRIAGE HOLDS RELATIONSHIPS TOGETHER?**

List the four pitfalls the author give for this myth:



1. It begins to replace the relationship rather than enhance it.
2. A man is not looking to marry every girl that tumbles into bed easily.
3. It gives the women an idea that she should expect more from the man who has no commitment.
4. A player likes to have variety, he'll get bored with you.

Do you think it is harsh to say that some guys treat women like “practice dolls?”

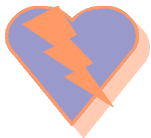
**SEX OUTSIDE OF MARRIAGE IS A SIGN OF COMMITMENT**

Is someone who is not ready to marry you, really committed to you?

It is like saying I show my commitment to you by not committing to you.

How does sex outside of marriage show not a sign of commitment but a sign that the guy has gotten his way?

He does not need to commit to you to get what he wants. If he gets the benefits he wants from you, he does not need to commit.



**MARRIAGE SHOULD BE HONORED BY ALL, AND THE MARRIAGE BED KEPT PURE, FOR GOD WILL JUDGE THE ADULTERER AND THE SEXUALLY IMMORAL.**

**GOD’S WORD — HEBREWS 13:4**

**GUY MYTHS — THE BODY IS NOT MEANT FOR SEXUAL IMMORALITY—1 CORINTHIANS 6:13****SEX IS A PHYSICAL NEED, AND PHYSICAL NEEDS CAN'T BE WRONG.**

What is the difference between physical want and need?

You cannot live without what you need, you can only be disappointed by not getting what you want.

Will anyone die from not having sex?

Nope.

**DON'T HAVE SEX JUST TO RELIEVE DESIRE; WAIT UNTIL MARRIAGE, WHERE HAVING SEX IS PART OF MAKING LOVE.**

**BUDZISZEWSKI PAGE 86**

**SEX IS FOR PLEASURE, AND PLEASURE CAN'T BE WRONG**

Are all pleasures harmless? What about sex outside of marriage?

It has emotional and relational consequences, physical disease, as well as social consequences.

Describe the Hedonist Paradox...

The more you chase after pleasure the more it eludes you.



**IF YOU WANT TRUE AND LASTING PLEASURE, YOU NEED TO STOP CHASING IT AND START PURSUING LOVE.**

**MARRIAGE IS BORING BECAUSE THERE ISN'T ANY VARIETY**

How does having "shallow variety", sleeping around, damage you capacity for intimacy?



Read the illustration about sticky tape...

Why is "deep intimacy" without a promised commitment of marriage impossible?

Each of you will always be holding something back.

## READ PAGE 90 TOGETHER ABOUT THE BEAUTY OF MARRIAGE



### GOD'S ADVICE TO US:

FOR REAL LOVE AND SAFE SEX, PUT ON SOME OF THESE.

### RESOURCES FOR FURTHER STUDY



1. Boy Meets Girl by Joshua Harris, Multnomah Publishers Inc.
2. I Kissed Dating Goodbye by Joshua Harris, Multnomah Publishers Inc.
3. Choices: Finding God's Way in Dating, Sex, Singleness by Stacy and Paula Rinehart, Nav Press
4. Passion and Purity by Elizabeth Elliot, Baker / Revell