



## — Introduction for Parents —

When I decided to have “the talk” with my oldest child, I fixed a picnic lunch and, by God’s grace, it turned out to be a truly beautiful moment between father and daughter. I read some portions of Genesis, explained God’s glorious gift of sex and his creating male and female as sexual beings. I allowed her to ask questions which helped me steer the conversation in an age-appropriate way. While I’m sure some of my explanations were less than perfect, it seemed like a perfect time spent together and I was so thankful to God for that time I hope we’ll both remember for many years to come. Little did I know, however, just how thankful I would be.

Two months after this conversation I was in the living room with my wife enjoying some quiet conversation as our children played in the front yard. Our yard often became the hangout for all the neighborhood children. I would typically step outside on occasion to ensure everyone was playing nice – trying to strike a balance between the helicopter parent and the neglectful parent. Before I could step outside my daughter and her friend came in. Just as I sensed that something was wrong, my daughter said, “Dad, can we talk to you?”

My daughter and her friend told me that two boys down the street asked them to have sex with them. My daughter and the two boys she referenced were eight-years-old and the other girl was about six ... let that sink in. She went on to explain that they were saying some other sexual things – not her words – and they rode away on their bikes and came to talk to me.

Then my daughter said, “Part of me didn’t want to tell you this, but I knew I should.” I praised her for this decision and thanked God for moving in her heart to bring this information to me.

After I spoke with the girls, I tracked down the two boys. (Yes, they are both still alive today for those wondering.) God gave me firm but gracious words. One boy literally began to tear up and almost cried in front of me. It was that quivering lip and those glossy eyes that God used to give me this thought, It’s not this boy’s fault. It’s his parents.

I could be mistaken, but I assume this young boy did not know what sex was. He has probably heard the word and – if we’re going with statistics – seen pornographic images. But, hearing the word ‘sex’ in the school halls or seeing sexual images on Google are not sex.

God’s definition of sex is far deeper than any image on the Internet. It’s even beyond the understanding of any adult who’s been married for fifty years. God’s gift of sex is his glorious invention that’s shared between one man and one woman in the context of marriage and it points to his love for his church.

We may know what sex is, but we will never fully know the great depth God created it to be. This is what makes pornography such a tragedy.

What took place in my front yard that day was tragic. Two young girls were hurt and scared. It’s difficult for adults to comprehend the ways in which their young minds processed the sexual requests of these boys. But, it’s not only a tragedy for these young girls, it also is for these boys. Even though I tried to communicate

love and truth to them, I hardly have a relationship with them. I could only do so much. Without God's intervention, they will continue down a path of sexual perversion and hurt others in the process.

I hope I'm wrong and maybe they have parents that are teaching them about biblical sexuality. But, this book is written for them. It's written for the two little girls who came walking in my living room that day. It's written for parents who know that it's not a matter of *if my child will be exposed to pornography, but when will they be exposed.*

Pornography is wreaking havoc in our culture. After serving in youth ministry for well over a decade, I've seen students, families, and marriages destroyed over this issue. I've had parents and students in my office in tears over this issue. And I'm convinced that one of the greatest tools the enemy has used when it comes to pornography has been this: silence.

Too many parents have been embarrassed or felt ill-equipped to deal with this subject, so they don't talk about it at all. They remain silent on the matter.

Sadly, some of the silence from the parents has been due to the fact that they have secret porn addictions themselves. Other parents mistakenly think that remaining silent about it will protect their children from it. While there are numerous reasons parents don't talk about this issue, let's consider one way to fight against the pervasive influence of pornography in our culture.

As you've probably guessed, if silence has been a weapon pornography has employed, then conversation is an ally in our fight. But, I'm not simply talking about passing on a knowledge about pornography and its devastating effects, which can be helpful. I'm talking about passing on the truth of God's Word to our children. That's where this book comes in.

The book you hold in your hand is meant to be read alongside your child. It is pitched at 7–12-year-olds. While some of you may protest that seven is too young, please be reminded that the average age of porn exposure is now eight-years-old. Plus, wouldn't you want your children to be exposed to the truth of God's Word about sex before they hear lies from the world?

It is my hope and prayer that God uses this resource to protect many young minds from a life of pornography. That God uses this resource to spare future marriages the affliction brought from pornography. And, while we can be confident that God does use his Word to transform lives, we must be in prayer. This resource is not a guarantee that your life and the life of your children will be free of pornography abuse. That said, it is a mighty tool I hope the Lord is pleased to use in our fight against this issue.



# Introduction

## To be Read with Child

One of the greatest gifts God gives to parents are children – they are treasures! The truth is, however, our children don't belong to us but to God. Since God creates everything, it all belongs to him – even children. Therefore, part of a parent's job is to take care of the children God gifts to them.

One of the jobs I have as your parent is to take care of you. Not only do I try and take care of your physical needs – like food, shelter, and clothing, but, I also try and take care of your spiritual needs – like praying for you and reading the Bible with you. This little workbook is part of how I'm trying to faithfully parent you to be a godly person in a sinful world.

Something I want to teach you about is God's good gift of sex and how our sinful world affects it. In Genesis 1:26–28 we read:

“Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’”

There is so much that could be said about these verses. One thing these verses discuss is God's design of sex. When God is telling Adam and Eve to be “fruitful and multiply and fill the earth ...” he's talking about sex. To be sure, he's talking about more than sex, but he is telling Adam and Eve to do something he created them to do. They are to have sex and by doing this they will be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth.

The most important thing I want you to hear from me is that God created sex and it is a good thing. He actually created it and it was a part of life before sin even entered the world.

Sadly, sin enters the world in chapter 3 of Genesis. After that, sin poisoned everything. The world is still good and contains God's amazing fingerprints all over it, but sin has also impacted every square inch – even sex.

What this workbook discusses is one specific way that sex has been poisoned by sin. There is something called “pornography” and it is just one way we see sin ruining something God created as good. Pornography is a dangerous thing and it hurts you and other people. Not only do I want to teach you about this to protect you, but I also want to teach you about this so you can understand God's good creation.

Even though I cannot protect you from all the evils of this world, I can pass the knowledge of God's Word on to you and equip you for life in a broken world. The Bible tells us that it is the Sword of the Spirit (Ephesians 6:17). God uses it in our lives as a weapon against evil. In order for me to be a faithful parent, I want to equip you with the truth of God's Word in the midst of a world that lies to you. Pornography is a lie that will hurt you, so let's read the truth of God's Word to fight it.

(For the boy's story, turn to page 35)



Not If, But When  
The Girl's Story

# 1. One of God's Greatest Gifts

"How was the waterpark?" Nancy asked. Sarah and her friends had been anticipating this trip for the past month. Not only would it be a fun place to visit, but it marked the end of school as well.

"Oh Mom! It was such fun," Sarah replied. "Everyone was able to make it and the weather was perfect. Plus, there was no school."

Laughing, her mother said, "I'm glad you had fun, but remember, school isn't to punish children. It helps you steward the brain God has given you." This was a phrase that had become very familiar to Sarah.

"Hey Mom," Sarah said somberly. "You know how you said we can always talk to you about anything?"

"Of course you can sweetie," Nancy replied. Nancy sensed a concern in Sarah's tone.

"Well, my friends were talking about this boy at the waterpark. They said he looked cute and one of my friends said he had a good body. They also said something about sex."

"Thank you for telling me that," said Nancy. "Do you remember exactly what they said about sex?"

"Nothing much. They just used the word. I don't even think they knew what it meant."

"Honey, I'm so glad you're coming to me with this and not to someone else. You're showing a lot of wisdom to talk with someone older about something as important as sex. To be honest, I should have talked to you about this sooner, so please forgive Mommy for not doing that. Do you remember how the Bible begins?"

"Yes," said Sarah, "it tells us that God made all things. And that he created men and women 'after his own image'."

"That's right," said Nancy, "and, if you remember, God also tells humans to be 'fruitful and multiply' and 'to fill the earth'. What do you think God's talking about there?"

Sarah, looking down at the floor, replied, "Is God telling them to make babies?"

Nancy said, "That's part of what he's telling them. You see, when we read Genesis we read that God made everything. But, it doesn't specifically say that God created sex. Even though it doesn't use the word 'sex' in Genesis, that is some of what is meant by 'fill the earth and multiply'. God wants men and women to have sex in the proper context."

Thinking a bit about what her mother said, "So sex is how babies are made?"

"That's right," said Nancy. "You know how Mommy and Daddy tell you that you are an amazing gift to us? Well, sex is also an amazing gift. God made it and gave it to us and it is just one of the ways that tells us what a gracious and loving God we have."

Sarah replied, "So, when sex is a good thing, why did I feel like we were talking about something bad at the waterpark?"

"That's a great question, sweetie. Let's go on the back deck and talk about this some more."



### **Read:**

Genesis 1:1, 26-28

### **Main Point:**

God made all things, even something called sex.

### **What did you learn?**

(Allow your child to answer in their own words.) God made all things and this includes sex. Sex is a good thing – a gift – God has given to his children.





Not If, But When  
*The Boy's Story*

# 1. One of God's Greatest Gifts

"How was the waterpark?" Hardie asked. Samuel and several of his friends had been anticipating the trip for the past month as it marked the end of school.

"It was such fun, Dad!" Samuel replied. "All my friends were there and it didn't rain like we thought it would. Plus, there was no school."

Laughing, his father said, "I'm glad you had fun, but remember, school isn't something adults do to punish children. It helps you steward the brain God has given you." This was a phrase that had become very familiar to Samuel.

"Hey Dad," Samuel said somberly. "You know how you said we can talk to you about anything?"

"Yes, of course." Hardie, sensed concern in Samuel's tone.

"Well, a couple of my friends saw a girl at the waterpark. She was in a bikini. They talked about how hot she was. Then they said something about sex."

"Thanks so much for telling me this," said Hardie. "Sadly, a lot of guys are going to talk like this and that doesn't honor women in a way God calls us to. Do you remember exactly what they said about sex?"

"Nothing much. They just used the word. I don't even think they knew what it meant."

"Listen, I'm so glad you're coming to me with this and not to someone else. You're showing a lot of wisdom to talk with someone older about something as important as sex. To be honest, I should have talked to you about this sooner, so please forgive me for not doing that. Do you remember how the Bible begins?"

"Yes," said Samuel. "It tells us that God made all things; that he created men and women 'after his own image.'

"That's right," said Hardie. "And, God also tells humans to be 'fruitful and multiply' and 'to fill the earth.' What do you think God's talking about there?"

Samuel, scratching his head, replied, "Is God telling them to make babies?"

Hardie said, "That is part of what he's telling them. You see, when we read Genesis we read that God made everything. But, it doesn't specifically say that God created sex. Even though it doesn't use the word 'sex' that is some of what is meant by 'fill the earth and multiply.' God wants men and women to have sex in the proper context."

Samuel thought about what his dad said, "So, sex is how babies are made?"

"That's right," said Hardie. "You know how Mom and Dad tell you that you are an amazing gift to us? Well, sex is also an amazing gift. God made it and gave it to us and it is just one of the many ways that tells us what a gracious and loving God we have."

Samuel replied, "So when sex is a good thing why did I feel like we were talking about something bad when my friends brought it up at the waterpark?"

"That's a great question, son. Let's go on the back deck and talk about this some more."



## **Read:**

Genesis 1:1, 26-28

## **Main Point:**

God made all things, even something called sex.

## **What did you learn?**

God made all things and this includes sex. Sex is a good thing – a gift – God has given to his children.



