

A Healthier View of Sex

by Tom Gaston

Questions to consider, discuss or journal.

1. *“One common doctrine of mainstream Christianity is the immortality and immateriality of the soul. This doctrine leads to the idea that your true self is that immortal soul, which will survive and exist apart from your body.”*

The author highlights some verses that may allude to this. In what ways has this doctrine seeped into your understanding of sin/body/flesh?

2. How would you explain to a new bible student the difference between our bodies and our flesh?
3. Have you unconsciously succumbed to the *‘Purity Gospel’*? Is this something that we inadvertently teach our young girls (in particular) without fully grasping the negative consequences of low self-worth? If you think the answer is No, have you considered finding an appropriate way to have this important conversation with the young girls/teens in your ecclesia?
4. In his discussion the author has covered topics that we tend to avoid: being married and childless, or embracing a single lifestyle. These are topics that Press On has been asked to address, implying that they are relevant to many of us. In what ways does your ecclesia include those who are single (never married, divorced, widowed) and those who are married but don’t have children (for a variety of reasons)? How would you find out if you have members who feel isolated? Is your ecclesia unconsciously family-centric?
5. Do the verses that use the same Greek word for ‘lust’ change your gut reaction to hearing this word? The prophets “desired” to see Jesus (Matthew 13:17), the prodigal son “longed for” the pods that the pigs ate (Luke 15:16), and Jesus “desired” to eat the Passover with his disciples (Luke 22:15) – all this same word.
6. What is the main point(s) that you will take away from this presentation of the topic?