



## **Message Reflections**

November 21, 2021

*“Sexuality is designed by God as a way to know Christ more fully. Knowing Christ more fully is designed by God as a way of guarding and guiding our sexuality.”*

-John Piper

**Genesis 1:27 - “So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.”**

We were created in the image of God. When we grasp the understanding of bearing God's image and being made in his likeness, we can appreciate and celebrate who we really were created to be. When we choose to focus on who God is, we begin to experience our true identity and purpose.

- What does it mean to carry the image of God? How might your identity in Christ help you view your sexuality?
- How does knowing that everyone reflects the image of God affect your view of those who express their sexuality in a way that's different than how God intended?

**Romans 1:25 - “They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised.”**

- In our world today, how have you seen ways that we have exchanged the truth for a lie when it comes to our sexuality?

**1 Corinthians 6:18-20 - “Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your bodies.”**

- Paul instructs believers to “Run from sexual sin!” Oftentimes, we spend our energy thinking about what we're running from. But have you ever thought about what you're running towards? What could you run to when facing temptation in your life?

Sin has corrupted God's created order, but Jesus' life serves as a model for us, and his death purchased our freedom from sin. God's plans and purpose apply to every aspect of our lives, including our sexuality and gender identity.