

WELCOME TO THE RESISTANCE

Sex Mad | Discussion Notes

This is the final week of our series so it's a great chance to look back. How have you found this series? What has challenged you? What have you changed in your day-to-day life as a result of the series?

This week we're looking at the topic of sex. For some people this will be a very difficult topic with painful connotations, for other it might just be a bit awkward! You may want to split into smaller groups (potentially same-sex) for different sections. Start by setting some ground rules for the discussion, such as:

- We want to be open and honest but you only have to share what you feel comfortable with
- We don't have to agree on everything, but be respectful of each other's opinions
- We are all coming from different backgrounds and experiences in this area and that is okay
- We're all adults, so let's try and treat this as the important topic that it is!

Kate explained Paul's teaching to the church in Corinth - a sex mad city with a temple full of thousands of prostitutes. Read through 1 Corinthians 6:12-20.

Kate's first point is that "**Having the right to sexual freedoms doesn't mean that they are good for you**". Paul explains this she he says "I have the right to do anything,' you say—but not everything is beneficial."

- What is our cultural understanding of sex? How is it similar or different to what we see in Corinthian culture that says "I have the right to do anything"?
- What do you think the consequences of this way of thinking are?
- Paul goes on to say, "I have the right to do anything"—but I will not be mastered by anything." Do we see people being 'mastered' by their sexual desires in our culture?

Kate also explained that "**Sex is never just a physical act**". Paul teaches us this when he says, "You say, "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both." The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body."

- Do you agree with Kate that we ignore the spiritual and emotional aspects of sex and sexuality in our culture?
- What is the problem with viewing sex as a purely physical act? How can we change our way of thinking here?

Finally, Kate said that '**Your bodies are temples of Christ**'. Reread verses 13-20 again.

- What is Paul trying to teach us here? How does it change how we view our bodies and sex?
- Why does this mean that marriage is the best context for sex?

Try to make a good amount of time for prayer. It may be helpful to get into smaller groups here. Finally, make sure people know they can get prayer or talk things through at another time, some people may feel the Hub context isn't the best place for them to open up and receive prayer.