

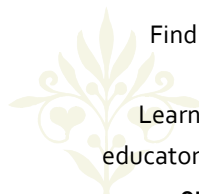
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*Mentoring biblical womanhood &
encouraging biblical manhood
on the journey of life.*

More Questions

- *How does God identify us?*
- *Does knowing who we are in heaven help us know who we are on earth?*
- *What is our sexuality? Isn't it inseparable from our identity?*
- *Jesus lived on earth as Man and fully human, but can we identify Him as a sexual being?*
- *Is it prudish — or prudent — to separate boys and girls when instructing about sexuality?*
- *Do children and teens lack information, or good judgment?*
- *Do we frustrate young people with early and much sex education, discussion of the wonders of marital sex in boy/girl classrooms, but then recommend delayed marriage?*
- *If not sex education, then what?*
- *Is there hope for the Christian who has been deceived?*

Is sex education in the Church distinctively different from the world?

*God does not say:
Be sexual, for I am sexual.
He says, "Be holy,
for I am holy."
There is an order for
teaching purity.
There is hope in mentoring
biblical manhood and
womanhood.
There is always hope
when we trust God above
all things.*



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WHO DOES GOD SAY THAT I AM?

What does this mean?

**The Failure of
Sex Education
in the Church:
*Mistaken Identity,
Compromised Purity***

**Questions & Answers
for Christian Dialogue**



By Linda Bartlett



Mistaken Identity ~ Compromised Purity

WHO ARE WE?

FOR 50 YEARS CHILDREN HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS “SEXUAL* FROM BIRTH.”

BUT THAT IS NOT WHAT GOD SAYS. GOD SAYS:

“I HAVE CALLED YOU BY NAME, YOU ARE MINE” (IS. 43:1). BAPTIZED, WE ARE HEIRS OF GOD IN CHRIST (TI. 3:5-8). GOD IS OUR FATHER AND WE ARE HIS SONS AND DAUGHTERS (2 COR. 6:18). WE ARE A “PEOPLE FOR HIS OWN POSSESSION, THAT WE MAY PROCLAIM THE EXCELLENCIES OF HIM WHO CALLED YOU” (1 PT. 2:9). “YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY” (1 PT. 1:14-15). WE ARE CITIZENS OF HEAVEN (PH. 3:20) IN TRAINING FOR GODLINESS (1 TM. 4:7-10).

GOD TELLS US TO ABSTAIN FROM SEXUAL IMMORALITY AND SENSUALITY, BUT NOT FROM BEING MALE OR FEMALE. HE INVITES US TO LIVE OUR DIFFERENT YET COMPLEMENTARY ROLES OF MALE AND FEMALE EVERY DAY — MARRIED OR SINGLE. GOD MADE US RELATIONAL, BUT NOT ALL RELATIONSHIPS ARE SEXUAL. BAPTIZED IN CHRIST, WE CAN SEE ONE ANOTHER AS BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO GLORIFY NOT OURSELVES, BUT OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN.

(* CAPABLE OF SEXUAL FEELINGS & ACTIVITY)

IDENTITY MATTERS

In Christ, we are “a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work” (2 Tim. 2:21). *Who is the “master?” What is the “house?” What is our “good work?”* Mistaken about our identity, we will be mistaken about our purpose and behavior. A sexualized identity cannot help a child or adult persevere toward holiness and resist selfishness and sin.

The Church—Christian men, women, and children—has been wrongly influenced by the secular humanist ideology of sex education. Perhaps we did not trust that God’s Word provides an order for purity. When the Christian mother Laeta wondered how she could prepare her daughter for a life of purity in Christ, the Church father Jerome offered this order of instruction using God’s Word: First, teach the rules of life from Proverbs, the patience and virtue of Job, the Epistles, and the prophets. Only then, and at a more mature age, is there wisdom in directing a young woman to read about marriage and the spiritual bride in Song of Songs. (Appreciation to Christopher W. Mitchell, *Concordia Commentary The Song of Songs*, 278)

QUESTIONS FOR CHRISTIAN DIALOGUE:

- What is the origin of sex education and from where does the description “children are sexual from birth” come?
 - What were the reasons for institutionalizing sex education?
 - Why can sex education be called a social reform?
 - Are Christianity and sex education unequally-yoked?
 - Why is sex education a life issue? A baptism issue?
 - Identifying ourselves as “sexual beings,” what trouble brews?
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- **Why has sex become so casual?**
 - **Why do Christian women dress so provocatively?**
 - **Why are as many Christian as non-Christian teens sexually active or having abortions? Why is there increasing disregard for human life?**
 - **Why do so many Christians live together instead of marry?**
 - **Why are homosexuality & same-sex “marriage” defended by Christians?**
 - **Why is there an increase in pedophilia & child pornography?**