

BIG IDEA

Sex should be seen as a good gift created by God to be enjoyed between a man and a woman in the marriage relationship.



KEY SCRIPTURES

- God created sex as a good gift to be enjoyed between a man and a woman within the marriage relationship ([Gen. 2:8-9,15-25](#)).
- People can distort and abuse the original design for sex ([Rom. 1:21-28](#)).
- We are to flee sexual immorality ([1 Cor. 6:12-18](#)).
- It is God's will that we remain sexually pure ([1 Thess. 4:3-8](#)).
- Jesus is a friend to sinners and offers forgiveness for those who have sinned sexually ([Luke 5:29-32](#)).



KEY QUESTIONS YOUR HIGH SCHOOLER IS ASKING

- What's wrong with having sex?
- How far is too far?
- Why is it wrong to be gay?
- Is it right for me to judge others' beliefs about sex?



AT THIS AGE MOST HIGH SCHOOLERS WILL ...

- Be establishing their values concerning sexual expression.
- Be trying to clearly define their sexual orientation.
- Have easy access to pornography.
- Face temptation to be sexually active.



DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES

- High schoolers are able to critically evaluate what the surrounding culture says about sex and sexuality with what they have been taught by authority figures. Biblical standards will clash with the cultural norms.
- They are physically developed for the most part, especially older high schoolers. Although they may still be growing, they are past the major changes.
- Feelings of love and passion are strong at this age, with a desire to be involved in romantic relationships.



COACHING TIPS

- It's imperative that you discuss sex with your high schooler from a biblical perspective. Champion the positive in that conversation. Point out Genesis 1–2 where God created everything and called it good, including sexual relations between a man and a woman in a covenant relationship of marriage.
- Emphasize that just because her friends may be engaging in sexual activity does not mean she should. Discuss the importance of waiting for God's perfect plan.
- When your high schooler talks with you about sex, don't let your first reaction be shock or condemnation. Yes, discuss God's standards for sex, but a sermon or lecture doesn't need to be the first words out of your mouth.
- Don't assume your high schooler knows what sexual immorality is. Help him know that sexual immorality includes all sexual activity outside of marriage, not just sexual intercourse.
- Statistics prove that almost all high school boys and the majority of high school girls have been exposed to pornography. You must have some frank discussions about the dangers of pornography and your high schooler's involvement. Take needed steps to safeguard your family's access.
- Talking about sex with your high schooler must be an ongoing conversation in your home. Work to create an environment where she can ask or talk to you about anything.



CONVERSATION STARTERS

- **WHAT DO YOU THINK GOD THINKS ABOUT SEX?** You can move this conversation from opinion to the truth about God's standards for sexuality.
- **IS HOMOSEXUALITY A SIN?** This can lead to a multitude of questions about same-sex attraction and sexual orientation. Don't be shocked or panicked if your high schooler reveals he is wrestling with this issue. Be a good listener. Speak biblical truth in love with compassion and grace, reminding him that we all struggle with the temptation to sin.
- **DO YOU THINK PORNOGRAPHY IS A PROBLEM AMONG YOUR FRIENDS?** As noted, there's a good chance your high schooler has, is, or will deal with the sin of pornography. Hopefully this question is a non-threatening way to open a needed discussion.



SAY OR PRAY

- Pray that your high schooler would make wise, godly choices when faced with sexual temptation, and know there is always a way out.
- Pray that your high schooler would feel comfortable in talking with you about anything concerning sexuality.
- Pray that in your own heart and mind you would remain sexually pure and model the biblical standard for sex in your actions and words.