



JOURNEY – April 7th Teaching Outline 6-7 Grade

What did you guys think about that movie clip...weird and kind of funny at the same time? This movie is not really an ordinary movie. It's kind of pretend documentary. The movie is made to look like a documentary but it's not. The movie starts out and this guy is flying this little tiny airplane and he's not that high. Maybe 1000 feet above the earth. He's flying over one of the most remote areas in Africa. It just so happens he's flying over a tribal area, a group of people who have never seen civilization at all. They see this plane flying over. They think the plane is some kind of god.

Up in the plane, the pilot is drinking a bottle of coke. He finishes it, slides open his little airplane window and when he's done, not thinking anything about it, he chucks the coke bottle out of his airplane above this tribe. They hear a noise, the bottle with the wind whipping through it and hear this *thunk*. They run over and one guy sees the glass bottle. He assumes that this beautiful thing that he's never seen before is a gift from the god. The god was flying over and chucks this bottle and it lands in the dirt. It's a gift from god!

He takes it back to his tribe and he shows it and they don't know what to do with it. They start using it for all kinds of things. They're so happy. There's a scene of a couple of ladies and they're using it like a rock and grinding the corn meal with the bottle. Another scene later one lady is holding the bottle and another lady is rubbing this snakeskin over this bottle to make it nice and smooth for whatever and they're all smiling having a great time. Pretty soon this bottle is all anybody thinks about. But they never thought to put water in it and drink out it like it was made for. They're just using it for all kinds of stuff. Pretty soon they start arguing over it and it becomes kind of this source of confusion and misunderstanding. In one scene these ladies are fighting over it and the one lady picks it up and bonks this guy over the head with the bottle. That guy thinks "The gods must be crazy to give us a gift that would cause us so much confusion and so much hurt!" He decides to walk to the edge of the earth and throw the bottle back to the gods.

So the whole rest of the movie is his adventures as he's walking through Africa and he's chased by lions and tigers and all kinds of things. The whole movie is him trying to return the gift back to the gods because the gods are crazy. Why would they give us a gift that we can't understand, and that causes hurt and tons of problems?

As we start this really important series about sex, you'll see it's sort of like that story I just told you. **Sex is a gift from God** and oftentimes people misunderstand it. They misuse it. Sometimes we think, "God, what are we supposed to do with something like sex? Why would you give us these desires for sex if it's going to just cause temptation and cause problems and we're not allowed to act on it? God, you must be crazy!"

Very few things are more important than getting a really good understanding of this topic of sex. It's not meant to be a confusing or hurtful or even a problem from God. It's meant to be a super cool thing in a marriage relationship. **God has a plan for sex and it's best.** Sex can seem confusing but God has a plan.

You know, we live in a sex-crazed world. TV commercials, billboards, games, movies...you name it...it's in your face all the time. But, tonight I'm going to give you some very basics. **What's God's plan for sex?**

First, let's start with a few myths about sex. "Myth" is kind of a weird word. But basically it just means misunderstandings, or lies, or confusions. Like, they myth that if you hold your face like *this*, it will stick that way. It's just not true. I could do *this* all day and my face won't get stuck. Basically there are a few things that are completely not true about sex that a lot of people believe anyway.

Myth #1 – God thinks sex is bad.

It's just not true. Let's look at what the Bible says.

Genesis 2:24

For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

1 Timothy 4:4

...For everything God created is good.

The truth is **God created sex to enjoy in marriage**. Everything God created is good. God created sex. Sex is good...in a *marriage* relationship.

BUT, we can twist it. We can take what God intended for good and make it bad, make it wrong. Just like that Coke bottle...it could have been a great bottle for drinking, but instead it was used in the wrong way and used to hurt someone. That's what happens when we don't use God's plan for sex.

Let's move on to another lie, or myth. This one is much more popular and it's so dangerous.

Myth #2 – Sex outside of marriage is fine if you feel ready for it.

This is so far from the truth! **God created sex for marriage only**. *God has a plan for sex, and it's for us to enjoy it in marriage someday with our husband or wife.*

It's called abstinence. To abstain – to hold off...to wait until marriage to have sex. You know, someday one of your friends might say, "That's a joke. It's impossible. Nobody can wait until they're married to have sex." But they are so wrong. You CAN wait, and lots of people every year get married having both waited until that day to have sex together. **That is God's design and His design is always the best.**

Let's look at what the Bible has to say about waiting until marriage.

Hebrews 13:4 (The Message Bible)

Honor marriage, and guard the sacredness of sexual intimacy between wife and husband. God draws a firm line against casual sex.

This thing called sex is sacred. Do you know what sacred means? It means extremely important...worthy of protecting. Like the holy grail in Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade. Its precious, it's incredibly valuable, it's set aside for just certain use because it's powerful. God has made sex sacred and He hates it when people use it outside of marriage.

This bond of sex is SACRED and POWERFUL. It's a bond between a husband and wife designed to never be broken. Sex is supposed to come along with a life-long commitment in marriage. But if we create that bond before marriage things get really messed up. Even if you think you really love them. Check this out...

Stickers illustration...stick two stickers together then pull them apart...what happens? They shred and tear and don't stick well any more. They are meant to stick well, but stick only once. Just like us in marriage. Sex is a powerful bond, and if we bond before we are supposed it, all kinds of terrible things can happen.

You'll see on TV that people have sex all the time before they are married. They make it seem so normal! But what they don't show you is the hurt and pain when those relationships end. See, that bond was never meant to break! They also don't show you the pregnancies, abortions, or sexually transmitted diseases. These things will change your life completely, forever! Sex outside of marriage can destroy you in so many different ways! That's why it's so important to follow God's design and wait until marriage.

Now, what about this version of this myth: **If you really love someone, it's ok to have sex with them.** If you've ever watched an episode of Friends you see it every week. But that's such a lie! Sex is a big deal! God made it that way! If you love someone, then love them enough to wait until you're married. And if someone tries to pressure you and use the "if you really love me" line like if you really love me than we should do this. The truth is that if they truly loved you than they wouldn't be asking you that question and pressuring you into something. The truth is **God created sex for marriage only.**

Let's go back to this movie I was talking about, the Gods must be Crazy. When I watch it, I'm almost yelling at the TV, "Put water in the stinking coke bottle stupid people!" If somebody could have said to the tribesman, "Let me explain this gift to you. Here is a coke bottle instruction book. Don't hit each other in the head with it. In fact, don't even use it for grinding corn meal. Put water in there and you can drink and drink!"

But think how much more sad it would have been if the guy's up in the airplane drinking the Coke, he throws a bottle out, and right after that he throws out with it the coke bottle instruction book. So they find the bottle and they find the instruction book on how to use the bottle. Then they think, "We don't need that. We'll figure it out on our own." And they go around using it for all of these weird purposes, causing damage, causing pain, causing suffering. That would have been really sad.

God's gift of sex comes with an incredible instruction book. And it's the Bible. God tells us what His plan is for sex. He tells us how to keep it from becoming painful, hurtful, and destructive. When people say, "If God was so loving He wouldn't allow AIDS to be killing millions of people!" Don't blame that on God. Blame that on people who take the instruction book, throw it away, and decide, I'm going to figure it out myself. "If God were so loving He wouldn't allow all these babies to be born without dads. He wouldn't allow that. He would make every baby have a dad." Don't blame that on God. Blame that on people who take the instruction book, throw it away and say, "We'll figure this thing out on our own. Our way makes more sense." **When we do it our way it ends up causing pain. It ends up causing hurt.** Life long consequences. It becomes this mess that God had never intended it to become.

God gave us this incredible gift of sex. It's a good gift. **It's awesome the Bible makes the promise everything from God is good.** That's awesome. Do you really think to yourselves, "I'm twelve! I know more than God. I'm going to do what I want to do. I'll worry about it later on. I can handle it." If you do, than you're in for a world of hurt.

God's plan is for sex to be awesome between a man and a woman in marriage. That's God's plan. It might not be popular; it might not be the easiest plan to follow. Nobody said following God was the easy path. In fact, you know this? You know there's a verse in the Bible that basically says this: That God's way is narrow, God's path is narrow and very few people are willing to walk it. But it leads to life. The world's path is wide and lots of people follow it. **It's the easy way but it leads to destruction.** God's path, God's plan isn't always popular. It isn't even super easy. But it is the perfect plan. I hope over the next couple weeks you guys will be willing to consider putting God's plan into action in your own life.

Prayer:

God, thanks so much for every kid in this room. God, thank You for loving us. Thank you for your perfect plan for sex. It just shows how much You love us. It's an incredible plan. It's a good plan. It's a perfect plan. God, help us to be young men and young women who are willing to consider the possibility that Your plan is better than the plans that we can come up with on our own. Your plan for sex is the better plan than what the TV shows teach us. Help us just to trust that. We believe Your promises and that you know what's best for us. In Your name we pray. Amen.



Adapted by Mark Howard from "Exposed: The Naked Truth about Sex" by Kurt Johnson (Saddleback Church, CA)