**Sermon Notes**

**“Renewed Sexuality”**

1 Corinthians 6:12-20 (NIV)

12 “I have the right to do anything,” you say-but not everything is beneficial. “I have the right to do anything”-but I will not be mastered by anything. 13 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. 14 By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. 15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! 16 Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, “The two will become one flesh.” 17 But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit. 18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. 19 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; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

**Plato’s Dualism**

Resurrection Hope for the body and sexuality

1. Our bodies and sexuality are a gift from God. Both have been corrupted by sin but are also arenas of God’s redemption.
2. All ideas that seek to undermine the inherent goodness or diminish the importance of our bodies or our sexuality need to be rejected.
3. What we do with our bodies sexually matter enormously because sex is a covenant-making activity that comprehensively shapes a person.
4. Whether unmarried or married, Christians are called to courageously consider how to “honor God with our bodies.”
5. Because our bodies and sexuality are an arena of God’s redemptive work, a negative, destructive, abusive sexual history can be redeemed in Christ.

**Questions for Discussion**

1. What was the most impactful aspect of this sermon for you?
2. Where do you see evidence for the fact that our culture holds a dualistic view of sex and the body?

3. “Sex is a covenant-making activity.” Agree or disagree?

4. Does this message help you understand why Christian leaders have tended to emphasize the importance of avoiding sexual sin among other sins listed in the New Testament?

5. In light of this message, how would you now respond to someone who accused Christianity of having a low/derogatory view of sex?

6. In light of this message, how would you respond to someone who said sex among consenting adults is “no big deal”?

7. What are some practical ways you believe Christians can “honor God with their bodies”?