



246



# set apart guy/girl: lesson 3- why wait?

## I. The Big Question...How Far is Too Far?

\*if you've asked this question, you've probably asked for the wrong reason

**Question:** Why do we ask this question?

-to see how far we can go so we can push the limit

\*Why do we look for the speed limit when we drive? To see how fast we can go without getting in trouble. We aren't looking to see what the safest slow speed we can go is!

We'll actually answer this in 2 ways:

A. First, let's see what the Bible is clear about

1. God created sex to be something beautifully enjoyed in MARRIAGE  
\*having sex with someone who isn't your spouse is adultery
2. Sexual lusting for what you can't have is SIN (**Matthew 5:27-30**)
3. The Bible has many references to go above and beyond JUST not having sex  
\*flee youthful lusts, avoid the adulterous woman, don't even look at someone who causes you to have sexual thoughts (see many verses on back of page)

B. Second, the best question is "how much can I SAVE to best please God & my future spouse"

\*the more you SAVE, the more you have to GIVE

-Read "Anna's Story"

Imagine your future spouse giving their heart away in these areas:

1. Emotionally  
\*They have invested every aspect of their life into a dating relationship. After they break up, they realize that they have invested so much into that person that they can't let go. That person was their life.
2. Verbally  
\*They have used all the "charming" lines up on previous relationships. All the sweet things they say to you have been used on someone else. They tell you "I love you", but they've also told that to multiple others.
3. Physically  
\*They chose to take a relationship too far. They thought it was love. They even thought they would eventually get married. The one thing meant for you was given to someone else.  
\*Maybe they didn't go "all the way", but they did go a bit too far in the past. Instead of you and your spouse discovering new physical things together, nothing is new and you are compared to all of the previous people they did things with.

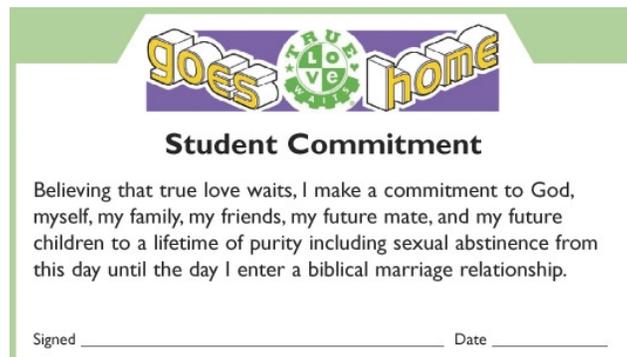
\*Pass the flower/chocolate illustration

## II. A Big Decision

Tonight, you can make one of the most important decisions of your life. BUT, this decision is a decision that is often broken if it is done for the wrong reasons:

- \*I am not ready
- \*I don't want to get pregnant or a disease
- \*I don't want to let people down

This is a decision to be sexually pure from this day forward and to give as much as possible to your future spouse. Why? Because it pleases God who loves you and wants the best for you.



**Student Commitment**

Believing that true love waits, I make a commitment to God, myself, my family, my friends, my future mate, and my future children to a lifetime of purity including sexual abstinence from this day until the day I enter a biblical marriage relationship.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Key verses:

**Hebrews 13:4** ~ *“Marriage must be respected by all, and the marriage bed kept undefiled, because God will judge immoral people and adulterers.”*

**I Thessalonians 4:3-4** ~ *“For this is God’s will, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality, so that each of you knows how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not with lustful desires, like the Gentiles who don’t know God.”*

**Acts 15:29** ~ *“Abstain from...sexual immorality.”*

**I Corinthians 6:16-20** ~ *“...flee from sexual immorality...honor God with your body.”*

**Ephesians 5:3-5** ~ *“But sexual immorality and any impurity or greed should not even be heard of among you...crude talking is not suitable...no sexually immoral person has an inheritance in the kingdom of the Messiah and of God.”* [someone who can willfully and continually commit these sins is probably never truly accepted Christ]

**James 1:14-15** ~ *“But each person is tempted when he is drawn away and enticed by his own evil desires. Then after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and when sin is fully grown, it gives birth to death.”*

**Philippians 4:8** ~ *“Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable- if there is any moral excellence and if there is any praise- dwell on these things.”*

**I Corinthians 7:1-2** ~ *“It is good for a man not to have [sexual] relations with a woman. But because of sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman should have her own husband.”*

**II Timothy 2:22** ~ *“Flee from youthful passions, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.”*

**Matthew 5:28** ~ *“But I tell you, everyone who looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”*



246

246

246



lesson 3  
why wait?

## Other Reasons To Wait

### I. You can get DISEASES

\*25% of teens who have had sex will get an STD (sexually transmitted disease)

\*"safe-sex" fails 50% of the time

\*over 80% of teens with STDs show no symptoms, passing it on to the next unsuspecting person

### II. You could get PREGNANT or become a FATHER

\*more than 40% of American girls become pregnant at least once by age 20

### III. Emotional baggage which will effect that relationship and your FUTURE relationships

\*you are left with feelings of guilt and remembrances of past experiences

\*you tend to focus your relationships on sex

### IV. Leads to DEPRESSION and low self-esteem

\*most relationships end after sex (there is nothing left)

\*2/3 of sexually active teens wish they wouldn't have started

### V. Makes you more likely to SIN in other areas (drink, smoke, and use drugs)

### VI. You are taking something from your future SPOUSE

\*the more you save, the more you have to give

### VII. God is not trying to keep things FROM you but FOR you; He is protecting you AND it

## “Anna’s Story” taken from *I Kissed Dating Goodbye* by Joshua Harris

It was finally here- Anna’s wedding day, the day she had dreamed about and planned for months. The small, picturesque church was crowded with friends and family. Sunlight poured through the stained-glass windows, and the gentle music of a stringed quartet filled the air. Anna walked down the aisle toward David. Joy surged within her. This was the moment for which she had waited so long. He gently took her hand, and they turned toward the altar.

But as the minister began to lead Anna and David through their vows, the unthinkable happened. A girl stood up in the middle of the congregation, walked quietly to the altar, and took David’s other hand. Another girl approached and stood next to the first, followed by another. Soon, a chain of six girls stood by him as he repeated his vows to Anna.

Anna felt her lip beginning to quiver as tears welled up in her eyes. “Is this some kind of joke?” she whispered to David.

“I’m...I’m sorry, Anna,” he said, staring at the floor.

“Who are these girls, David? What is going on?” she gasped.

“They’re girls from my past,” he answered sadly. “Anna, they don’t mean anything to me now...but I’ve given part of my heart to each of them.”

“I thought your heart was mine,” she said.

“It is, it is,” he pleaded. “Everything that’s left is yours.”

A tear rolled down Anna’s cheek. Then she woke up.

## “The Buried Box” taken from *Boy Meets Girl* by Joshua Harris

*This spot will do*, Rich thought sadly. He peered over his shoulder into the darkness to make sure no one was watching, then raised his shovel and drove it into the earth.

*Clang!* The sound of steel hitting rock rang out in the stillness of the night. He dropped to the ground. He worried his ex-girlfriend’s father might hear him. What kind of explanation could he give for digging a hole in their front yard at 3am? After 2 hours, he wiped a tear from his eye and walked away.

Four years before digging this hole, Rich had met Christy at church. They were fourteen, and immature...well, Rich was. It wasn’t until their senior year of high school that Christy would fall in love with Rich. Their relationship grew as they daily wrote letters to each other, pouring out their hearts. Over time, their pure love began to turn into a romantic relationship not focused on God. They came to a point when they realized that their relationship was not headed in the right direction and they needed to return to being friends again. This seemed to work at first, but whenever Christy would open her box of letters she had saved from Rich, she found herself jumping back into a relationship with Rich that she knew wasn’t right. Looking out for Christy, Rich took her box of letters. He told her that he wanted to make sure they could focus on being friends again.

It was that box that Rich secretly buried in her front yard. He had hoped that one day the box would one day be opened again, but he trusted that wherever God led them would be best. What he knew for sure was that God wanted them to take time and begin over as friends.

Well, Rich and Christy went away to different colleges. From time to time they would talk, but their busy schedules kept them apart. Eventually, they would begin to talk again. This time, they were friends. Although they had a deep love for each other, they weren’t jumping into a physical, romantic relationship. After a year of friendship, they felt they were ready to seriously date again.

They spent Christmas of their senior year at Christy’s house. The final gift was an unusual one from Rich to Christy. As she opened the gift she saw it was a baby tree. “Why don’t you plant it in the front yard?”, her father said. Rich and Christy’s family went out into the front yard and Christy began to dig a small hole for her tree.

*Clank!* Christy hit something while digging. As she dug further, she noticed the box that once held all her love letters. With excitement, knowing what was in the box, she opened it quickly. As she opened the first letter, she realized it wasn’t a letter she had ever read before.

You see, Rich knew that if those letters were ever dug up again, it would be because they had done their relationship the right way- a way pleasing to God. Knowing that, before he buried the box, he placed a new letter on top- one that read, “Will You Marry Me?”.