



SWIPE RIGHT

Week One

Water Everywhere And Not A Drop To Drink

Core Message:

The fierce thirst of the Israelites in the wilderness was only met with bitter and salty water, a startlingly accurate picture of what is all around us today when it comes to sex and relationships. See how God can make what was bitter sweet again.

Icebreaker:

If you could describe yourself as one type of fruit, what would it be and why?

Scripture References:

Exodus 15:22-26

Exodus 2:12

Genesis 2:24

Proverbs 4:23

John 4:13-14

*We are believing that through the weeks of this series that God would help you to:
regret proof your marriage bed and your death bed*

The Internet has brought porn into our lives almost unavoidably and apps that make a casual sexual encounter as easy as swiping to the right.

- 36 per cent of internet content is pornography.
- One in four searches are for it
- at any given time, 1.7 million users are streaming porn.
- average age now first encounters is 16
- 100 million users on dating apps.
- Tinder alone has over a trillion swipes
- has made it easy to “hit it and quit it.”

- No- strings-attached sexual encounters as fast as ordering an Uber.

-In so many ways the world is better because of all the tech upgrades, but it has surrounded us with a sea of sexuality. What are some ways that having technology has made your world better? How has it made it so much worse?

-We can combat this sex saturated culture by living carefully and intentionally while keeping our hearts set on heaven. What is one step you can take this week to start living a more careful and intentional life? How about to keep your eyes looking up?

1.) GOD WANTS YOU TO HAVE AMAZING SEX

Genesis 2:24 tells us God's plan for our sex lives: 1 man and 1 woman coming together for a life long covenant.

-The devil loves to pretend that sex was his idea and to shame us into thinking that it is a bad thing. In reality, God holds the patent on sex. How is this concept different from what you might have learned from the Church in the past?

-God wants you to have amazing sex. What have you heard or seen that gives you the impression that he doesn't? I.e. Parents, teachers rules

-What are some differences between what God says about sex and what our culture says about it?

-Whether you're married, dating, or single, how can you work to protect your marriage bed?

-If you are single and hope to one day be married, how are you preparing yourself for marriage now for when God does bring a spouse into your life?

2.) SEX ISN'T JUST PLEASURABLE BUT POWERFUL

Sex and romance are not peripheral but have life and death power.

-All powerful things come with a proper way to be used. Why do you think we tend to disregard instructions?

-How do you feel when you don't follow the instructions and things go wrong?

-Its loving to be told how to use something if the misuse of it could hurt you. This applies to sex and many other things in our lives. What are some other areas of our lives that we need to remember this truth?

-Have you experienced a time when the power of sex or relationships took you down a dangerous path?

-How can applying God's instructions benefit your life?

-What are some of the reasons or pressures people give to you to have sex before marriage?

-What are some ways you can protect the power of sex INSIDE your marriage?

3.) THE PROBLEM ISN'T HAVING A SEX DRIVE BUT LETTING SEX DRIVE

What's the problem with pineapples:? it's easy to take for granted what you have a lot of.

- What are some of your struggles when it comes to sex or relationships?
- What are things you look to instead of God's word when you're not feeling satisfied (in life, in relationships, in work...)?
- For every desire we have, there is a righteous way to fulfill it. What are some ways that you can fight to keep the righteous way in perspective and not have the world's view cloud your judgement?
- What are ways you can remember to find your satisfaction in God?
- Nothing has changed about sex, just our attitude toward it—What are some ways you can cultivate a proper attitude toward sex?
- Do you think there's a danger that our marriages can become like the pineapple—once cherished and honored but now simply routine? How can we protect our marriages against this?

4.) THE CROSS CAN MAKE WHAT WAS BITTER SWEET AGAIN

Ultimately what we are looking for in the empty wells of this world is what can only be found in a relationship with Jesus.

- We know grace is not a pass to do whatever we want, but how can you give grace to yourself and others for mistakes in the past?
- Are there things in your life you're holding onto even though they're leaving a bitter taste in your mouth? What practical steps can you take to release those things at the cross and allow Jesus's sweetness in your life?
- How can we be praying for each other as we ask God to make those things sweet again?
- How do we help speak into the lives of those around us who don't see sex for what it really is?

Closing Activity:

Spend time in prayer for all of your group members. You can do this all together as a large group or by breaking into pairs.

(SINGLES) for your future spouse, and that you would both now be fighting to swipe right to protect your relationship to come

(MARRIED) that God will help you to cherish and protect your marriage bed

(PARENTS) Prayer for your children and grandchildren

(EVERYONE) prayer for strength to display honor in your own life and for wisdom and integrity to inspire the attitudes of others to treasure sex for the gift that it is and not treat it as the pineapple who's value decreased when its availability increased.

Also, encourage everyone to pray for those who God would want them to bring back with them for part 2 of Swipe Right or even who in our lives needs a copy of the Swipe Right book.