<mark>Vid Bumper</mark> 3

My name is Chris Fluitt and I want to welcome you to Redemption Church. Not a mega church, but a mighty church in Plano Tx.

Best Thing Ever

We are in the 3rd week of the Best thing ever series.. I invite you to check out the previous sermons on the Resurrection & Forgiveness on our website. Redemption-Church.com

We really have something serious to talk about today. It is a subject that could be deemed awkward. There may be some that think we shouldn't talk about this subject at church.

The subject of course is...

1 Sex

I want you to know that there is no life subject that is inappropriate for church. The church should never abdicate their role of presenting truth. We should not leave people to discuss subjects in other venues because we are too afraid to speak.

So do not be afraid of this topic. We are going to look to the word of God and then spend some time talking to God before we are all said and done today.

I knew about 1 year ago that I would eventually preach this sermon. I was on facebook look at grumpy cat memes when all of a sudden...

2 Facebook Post

This is not someone that any of you know... It is someone I know through a friend on facebook. As you can read their post is about sex... Their post is about religion or church...

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It reads...
Sex is beautiful.
Sex is not bad.
Sex is natural.
Sex.
Sex.
Sex.
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Why is sex such a word we see and run from!? Can we please talk about this more... We all have questions, I know I have a million.

I've been so conditioned growing up to see sex as shameful by society, religion, and family thus resulting in me not ever wanting to be in a partnership and that is so not my true self. So I've got a mission. There is beauty in sex. I've got to learn that.

I cannot process all that is in my head right now... I'm overwhelmed. Goodness. Ps. I didn't have sex so chill out all you judgmental folks...

So when I read this post there were a number of things that jumped out at me. Maybe they jumped out at you also...

- 1- They are not wrong in Sex being beautiful, not bad, natural..
- 2- They are not wrong in sensing the shamefulness about sex from religion..
- 3- They desperately wanted to talk about it... they knew the church wouldn't talk about it... so they went elsewhere to talk about it.. *Can we please talk about this more...* the post says.

So we are going to do just that today. We are going to talk about it. In fact I will go ahead and declare...

3 Sex* is the Best thing Ever

Before anyone forms their arguments... I will point out an asterisk on the word sex... I will explain that in time.

Here is what we know about sex

God created sex.

Genesis 2:23 The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called `woman,' for she was taken out of man."(NIV)

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.(NIV)

God created sex as a blessing. God created sex to yield children, but that is not to say that is its only function.

Sex is fun. Sex is enjoyable. God created it that way.

There have been times in where a prevailing thought in Christianity was that sex was merely for making babies and that it was probably wrong to enjoy it. There is ZERO scripture for this teaching.

In sex there is the highest level of intimacy between 2 people. Scripture says that 2 become 1 flesh.

When it comes to intimacy... 3 Sex* is the Best thing Ever

Now about that asterisk..

2 Facebook Post

Our friend wrote that sex is beautiful... sex is natural... sex is not bad... basically... the best thing ever...

But I am sure we could all think some scenarios where sex is not beautiful... where sex is not natural... where sex is absolutely bad...

Rape is sex. It is not beautiful.

One night stands that leave people feeling shame or confusion over what even happened.

Adultery. Where someone breaks someone heart as they break a lifelong promise. It almost always ends in divorce.

Prostitution. Someone using sex for money. Someone trying to obtain sex through money.

Sex slave trade. Young girls & boys kidnapped to become sex slaves.

Pornography. An attempt to have the pleasure without any connection or intimacy.

Sexual Addiction. It's a real addiction that leads people to only think about the act of having sex.

Sexually Transmitted Disease. A sexual meeting that leaves behind a cruel calling card.

A loss of innocence as our world has become over-sexualized. The average age a child is exposed to pornography is 11 years old. The average age a child becomes sexually active is plummeting every year.

All the while the powers that be are not afraid to talk about sex. They preach the message that sex is beautiful, natural, and not bad...

4 Misuse of sex

You see this is not the sex that God created in a garden for Adam & Eve. This is the misuse of sex.

We cannot just say that sex is beautiful, natural, and not bad... There is an asterisk. And here it is..

5 Sex, that is how God created it, Is the Best Thing Ever

So how did God create sex? <mark>6God created sex to be the culmination of a covenant relationship between a man & a woman.</mark>

Notice I said CULMINATION. It is the end result and the highest most celebrated point of the relationship. Sex is not to be treated like a handshake greeting.

Next notice I said COVENANT RELATIONSHIP. A covenant is a bond, a coming together in agreement.

You should not have sex with someone you do not share covenant with! There should be an agreement to LOVE each other... and to share this gift of God with no one else but to who they covenanted with.

God created sex to be between a MAN & A WOMAN. I am not going to spend much time on that today, but let us all ask. Do we think God has His reasons for defining sex to be between a 1 man & 1 woman? Even if you don't understand why, don't you think that God may have His reasons?

Looking back at my facebook friend...

2 Facebook Post

This post confuses sex & love. There is a difference between having sex & making love. Sex is meant to be a celebration of the covenant love between husband & wife.

Sex is not always beautiful, but covenant love is always beautiful.

It was never God's intention for sex to be used outside of covenant love. This is where all the misuse comes in. Rape was never His plan. The sex trade was never His plan. The Sex Trade was never His plan.

His plan was for Sex in a covenant love relationship to be the best thing ever.

So listen up husband and wife...

If it is the best thing ever...

You guys are so much more culturally relevant and him than I am... so help me out. What is the stereotype of marriage couples vs unmarried couples?

Who has more sex married or unmarried couples STEREOTYPICALLY?

Who has more romance & passion married or unmarried couples?

Once a couple gets married their sex life does what ...?

This is the stereotype, that married couples have less sex & less romance.

Now wait a second... wasn't sex created for married covenant partners?

If it is the best thing ever... and it was created for you... THEN YOU OUGHT TO...

Now it is about to get awkward... but can you handle some real preaching.

No one night stand should have more passion than you and your love covenant partner.

No porn star ought to consume your emotions like the spouse that is in your home... supporting you, raising your kids, saying no to everyone else to make themselves available to only you.

MEN - They can't airbrush a model enough to be more beautiful than the heart of your bride.

WOMEN – No man can lift enough weights and pop enough steroids to be more of a man than your man that you chose to say yes to!

There is not a movie, a tv show, a video game, a youtube video, a book, a blog post, a smart phone notification that is BETTER than spending time with your covenant partner.

Celebrate each other husband & wife. Romance each other husband & wife. And for crying out loud HAVE SEX! God has given you the best thing.

I will be closing soon. There a few more things that you need to hear.

You need to 8 keep your marriage bed clean.

How many of you would let your dog come in from the rain, covered in mud, and let the dog crawl into your bed? Why not? Don't you love your dog? You don't do it because you have the common sense to keep your bed clean. You don't want to sleep in filth.

The Bible tells you to keep your marriage bed clean & pure.

<u>Hebrews 13:4 Marriage should be honored by all, and the</u> marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.(NIV)

- Don't let arguments into bed with you.
- Don't let bitterness into bed with you.
- Don't let secrets get into bed with you.
- Don't let the frustrations of the day in bed with you.
- Only let your covenant partner in bed with you.

9 Sex Unites

<u>1 Corinthians 6:16 Do you not know that he who unites himself</u> with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh."(NIV)

Don't you dare unite with someone else.

Some of you live in the same house and sleep in the same bed, but you are not unified.

10 Don't deprive your partner of the best thing ever.

<u>1 Corinthians 7:5 Do not deprive each other except by mutual</u> <u>consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to</u> <u>prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt</u> <u>you because of your lack of self-control.(NIV)</u>

When you deprive a distance grows. Boredom fits nicely in that distance. Adultery fits in that distance. Pornography fits perfectly in that distance. Satan's temptations are made to fit in that space.

Intimacy is all about closeness. Are you being intimate? Or are you distant?

Intimacy is all about openness. Are you being intimate? Or are you closed off from each other?

2 Facebook Post

The thing my friend is looking for...The beautiful thing... It is only found in a Covenant Relationship of man and wife. It is the best thing ever.

Live like it is the best thing ever! Treat your spouse like they are the best thing ever.

**musician

We do 3 things every time we come to Redemption Church. We have worshipped, we have received the Word of God, and now we will do the 3rd thing. We will talk to God.

Whatever you need, you can over the next few minutes, talk to God about it.

I want to challenge you to take time to talk to God.

If you want special prayer I want you to come within the first 2 feet of this altar. We will pray with you.

I would love to see every married couple in this altar.

I would love to see our singles in this altar asking God to show them their future spouse.