



August 22, 2018

Dear Parents,

On September 7 and 8, our church is holding an important forum on sexual ethics. The purpose of this forum is to help parents and students think biblically about several issues in the area of human sexuality. It is for any parent of a child in our youth or children's departments. It is also for all students ages 6th through 12th grade.

In our "post-Christian" culture, we are exposed frequently to many perspectives on sexuality that do not align with biblical teaching. These perspectives ultimately lead to destructive behaviors, broken relationships, and personal confusion and pain. As the church, we have the responsibility to communicate, with clarity and love, the true perspective on human sexuality, which is revealed in scripture. We must discuss, openly and gracefully, not only what we believe, but why. By doing so, we help one another discern the truth and live according to God's good and perfect will.

In this forum, I will give a series of interactive presentations on several issues. After each presentation, there will be a time for general questions. Then, we will have breakout sessions according to age and gender. These breakout sessions will be facilitated by leaders in our youth and children's departments. The breakout sessions will create an atmosphere where more specific questions can be asked. I will facilitate the breakout sessions for parents. Here is an outline of the issues that will be addressed:

Friday, September 7, from 6:30 to 9:00 pm

Session 1	<i>Creation: The Gift of Sexuality</i>	6:30 to 7:00 pm
Session 2	<i>The Fall: The Disorder of Sexuality</i>	7:00 to 7:30 pm
Session 3	<i>Unmarried Sexual Intercourse</i>	7:30 to 8:00 pm
Session 4	<i>Pornography, the Internet, and Social Media</i>	8:00 to 8:30 pm
Breakout Sessions		8:30 to 9:00 pm

Parents: led by Pastor Scott
High School Boys: led by Pastor Sam
High School Girls: led by Macy Sprunger
Junior High Boys: led by Scott Johnson
Junior High Girls: led by Janet McKemie

Saturday, September 8, from 9:00 to 11:30 am

Session 1	<i>Homosexuality</i>	9:00 to 9:30 am
Session 2	<i>Transgenderism</i>	9:30 to 10:00 am

Breakout Sessions

10:00 to 10:30 am

Parents: led by Pastor Scott

High School Boys: led by Pastor Sam

High School Girls: led by Macy Sprunger

Junior High Boys: led by Scott Johnson

Junior High Girls: led by Janet McKemie

Session 3 *Case Studies: How to Respond Christianly*

10:30 to 11:00 am

Session 4 *Sexual Faithfulness and the Church*

11:00 to 11:30 am

As a parent, you know best what your child is capable of processing at his or her stage of development. As you can see, difficult issues will be addressed. However, these issues will be addressed in a sensitive manner. I will be considerate of the fact that there will be a wide range of ages and maturity levels in the room. ***Please read the statement of the Church of the Nazarene on marriage and human sexuality.*** You can find it at wgcn.org/news-notes. If you feel that your child is not ready to think about the issues in this statement, you may want to consider having them not participate. Please keep in mind, however, that your child may already be exposed to these issues in conversations among their peers. The church provides a safe, loving, and trusted environment where these issues can be discussed in a constructive way.

Here are a few more details for this event:

Location: Fellowship Hall

Childcare: this will be provided for children ages birth through 5th grade.

Drinks and Snacks: these will be provided on both Friday evening and Saturday morning.

Cell Phones: no cell phones; we want to have a distraction free and confidential environment.

Question Submissions: If you have a specific question that you hope is addressed in this forum, please submit it to me by September 1 (scott.dermer@wgcn.org).

RSVP: let us know how many are coming from your family by emailing the church office at info@wgcn.org. ***Please do so by September 1.***

Pray: begin praying now for this event. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide me and all of our conversations.

If you have any questions about the forum, don't hesitate to contact me. I trust that this will be a valuable time of learning and rejoicing in the truth that God has given us.

Grace and peace,



Pastor Scott