

Hope City Church

Going Deeper Notes | 06.26.22

Revelation 2:12-17 | Numbers 22-25 | Hebrews 4:12-13

Pergamum **INTRO: Sexuality Side A**

Icbreaker: Where did you first learn about sexuality? Was it a conversation with your family or friends? Was it from a magazine or something you saw on the internet? What does the Bible have to say about sex and the way it impacts our own lives?

Going Deeper:

- 1) As you read about the 7 Churches in Revelation, Pergamum was a church positioned prominently in a place “where Satan has his throne”. Take a look at Revelation 2:12-17 (p. 950, Life Transformation Bible, LTB). What did Jesus say that Pergamum did well? And what did Jesus tell them they needed to seek forgiveness from?

How are you doing in this area of your life—not just your physical interactions, but also your behavior—what you choose to look at, and what you let your mind think about? What do you believe God wants to say to you about this area of your life?

- 2) These chapters from Numbers 22-25 take a seemingly random direction about sexuality, but there are powerful lessons to glean from God’s messenger, Balaam (and his donkey, crazy enough), and the way these two set up what happens next with Phinehas in chapter 25 (pgs. 124-127, LTB).

How badly do you think our culture wants to pursue God’s intentions for our lives when it comes to sexuality? What evidence do you see of this, today (in the conversations around you; on the internet; in the ways products are being marketed for consumption; and in the movies and mini-series that we watch online? What are these sources telling you about sexuality and the way things should be? What do you think about that?

- 3) In Hebrews 4:12-13 (p. 922, LTB), the author reveals the power that the Word of God has in our lives to reveal our true intentions, even when we do not fully realize or understand our own intentions. The Word of God also has the power to free us from the things that have hurt us. What do you want God to free you from right now? What scriptures from The Bible encourage you to hang in there through the struggles you are facing in this moment?

Action: During these next few weeks, take the opportunity to search through the Bible and read what it has to say about sexuality. Make notes about what you discover. And ask God to show you how that compares to your own life and how you have embraced your own sexuality.

Prayer: God, thank you that no matter where I am in this moment or what I have been through in my past, that you see my struggles and you love me--one hundred percent! When the world around me wants to take advantage of me and lead me down a path that distorts what you have intended for me, you are there to welcome me and show me the freedom you intended for me to experience in this life when I turn to you and glean from your Word. During this next week, give me your eyes to see the circumstances around me and how I have been engaging with those circumstances, specifically in a sexual way. Help me to live the life you have longed for me to live, Holy Spirit. I understand that I was meant for more. Show me what that looks like, God.