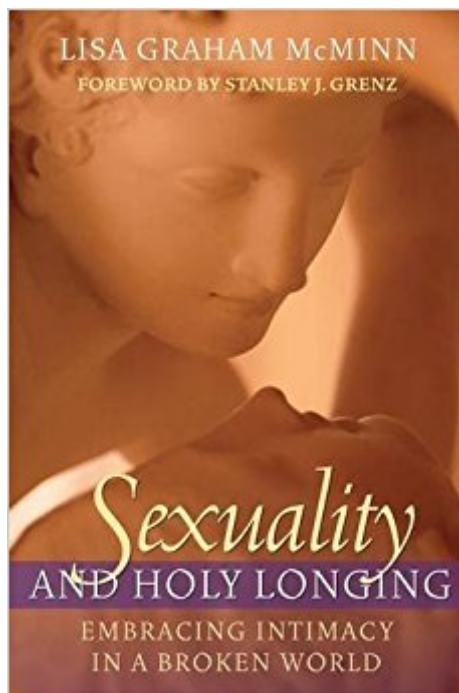




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Sexuality And Holy Longing: Embracing Intimacy In A Broken World



Synopsis

This powerful book shows how many Christians, including pastors, parents and leaders, have unwittingly absorbed many cultural ideas about sexuality that are not supported by the Bible. As people created by God for relationship, our sexuality guarantees that we will long for and be drawn toward others, McMinn provides a blueprint for understanding sexuality--and our longing to be loved-- at all stages of life (childhood, teen years, early adulthood, midlife, and old age), and addresses tough topics including sexuality for those who are single (divorced, widowed, or never married). She also details practical solutions for ways that parents, educators, and churches can nurture others and ourselves in the quest to understand sexuality as a longing that draws us toward God and others, and to embrace it as a God-given gift. Thought provoking study questions at the end of each chapter inspire us to action in reclaiming our sexuality through grace.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In this excellent examination of sexuality from an evangelical Christian perspective, McMinn (Growing Strong Daughters), a sociology professor at Wheaton College, provides a refreshing perspective on sexuality in general and on the specific uses and misuses of sex in, as she describes it, a "broken world." Covering topics such as rites of passage for men and women, adolescent sexual awakening, singleness, marital sex, "birthing babies" and cultural attitudes toward sexuality, each chapter includes a half dozen or so genuinely thoughtful questions for reflection and discussion. McMinn's fresh insights and clear and readable style make the book accessible on a popular level. Parents of pre-teens and teens should find it a practical tool for helping their children

make wise decisions about sex, while engaged couples should find her discussion of true intimacy, and our unrealistic expectation of achieving it in this life, to be helpful in navigating their way through marriage. At the same time, her thorough research makes the book appropriate for academic use. While never straying from biblical principles, the author explores emotionally charged issues like unwanted pregnancy and masturbation with grace and compassion; her discussion of homosexuality should be required reading in ministry programs at evangelical seminaries. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

...excellent examination of sexuality provides a refreshing perspective on sexuality in general. -- Publishers Weekly, December 22, 2003 In this excellent examination of sexuality from an evangelical Christian perspective, McMinn (Growing Strong Daughters), a sociology professor at Wheaton College, provides a refreshing perspective on sexuality in general and on the specific uses and misuses of sex in, as she describes it, a "broken world." Covering topics such as rites of passage for men and women, adolescent sexual awakening, singleness, marital sex, "birthing babies" and cultural attitudes toward sexuality, each chapter includes a half dozen or so genuinely thoughtful questions for reflection and discussion. McMinn's fresh insights and clear and readable style make the book accessible on a popular level. Parents of pre-teens and teens should find it a practical tool for helping their children make wise decisions about sex, while engaged couples should find her discussion of true intimacy, and our unrealistic expectation of achieving it in this life, to be helpful in navigating their way through marriage. At the same time, her thorough research makes the book appropriate for academic use. While never straying from biblical principles, the author explores emotionally charged issues like unwanted pregnancy and masturbation with grace and compassion; her discussion of homosexuality should be required reading in ministry programs at evangelical seminaries. (Jan. 30) (Publishers Weekly, December 22, 2003)

It seems Christians treat sexuality as one of two extremes - to celebrate in marriage, or to ignore or repress in the unmarried. This book gives an excellent overview of how God created us male and female from birth, and that sexuality has a purpose - throughout life, not just in procreation. This book addresses sexuality as a longing for relationship - in every context of life. It addresses sexual development, singleness, marriage, childbearing, and our sex-driven culture. It was a refreshing read, well-researched, and well thought-out. I would definitely use this book when talking to young women (men also, but I mostly talk to women) about sexuality and sexual issues in today's world.

Haven't finished yet but is good so far

Read for class. Interesting and insightful. It should be a must read for everyone.

For college classes

Purchased by a college as a library resource for students upon request of the Biblical Counseling Dept Chair

It's my opinion that the Christian church has done a poor job of addressing sexuality. Lisa McMinn's book is a wonderful exception to that generality. She balances candor and compassion; is didactic but not judgmental. Her presentation is a good antidote for unhealthy views of sexuality that exist both inside and outside the Christian community.

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