



Main point - Your sexuality is God's gift to magnify Christ

- 1. Your sexuality is not your identity**
- 2. Your sexuality is ordered by God's providential gift**
- 3. (The expression of) your sexuality will soon fade away**

1 :

“One of the New Testament's most frequent one-word descriptions of the Christian is that he is ‘called.’”

Sinclair Ferguson, *The Christian Life*

2 :

“Denying someone's sexuality is seen as denying who that person really is. It is telling them repress something central to their identity, and consequently, to their ability to flourish. . . . It is not biblical Christianity that insists someone's sexual disposition is so foundation to who they are, and that to fail to affirm their particular leaning is to attack who that person is at their core.”

Sam Allberry, *Is God anti-gay?*

3 :

“Most of us today have been conditioned to think of marriage as the ideal, and wonder whether we could ever survive singleness. Paul thinks it should be the other way around. In his mind, there is a simplicity, and freedom, and unity to an unmarried heart in love with Jesus that every Christian should envy. And as beautiful and indispensable as marriage might be in the church, Paul sees that it does not make following Jesus any easier or more complete. In fact, it puts some distance between us and Christ—a necessary distance, a God-ordained distance, a Christ-exalting, gospel-declaring distance—but a distance. Much of the time and attention and energy we would have spent alone with our Lord, or evangelizing the lost, or discipling younger believers, is now spent caring for a spouse, or for a family. Paul loves that kind of ministry . . . but here in 1 Corinthians 7, he's correcting a common misconception: that the fullest Christian life happens only in marriage.”

Marshall Segal

4 :

“It is not the teaching of Jesus that tells you that life is not worth living if you can't be fulfilled sexuality—that a life without sex is no life at all. . . . The teaching of Jesus does two things: it restricts sex and it relativizes its importance. Jesus shows us that in its God-given context the value of sex is far greater than we might have realized—and yet even there it is not ultimate. Sex is a powerful urge, but it is not fundamental to wholeness and human flourishing. Jesus showed that both in his teaching and in his lifestyle. After all, Jesus—the most fully human of all people—remained celibate himself.”

Sam Allberry, *Is God anti-gay?*