



**TALKING ABOUT
TECH, SEX, AND FAITH
WITH TEENS**

SEX, TECH & FAITH HAS A YOUTH STUDY GUIDE

Each section provides a brief summary of specific chapter-related theological, sexuality, and digital information to serve as a primer for the adult leader. This includes the topics of digital pornography including sexting, online dating, digital sexual violence, virtual reality and sex robots. However, the guide assumes the leader has read each chapter, equipping them with a thorough overview of the topic. AND, that the leader can teach from a values-based framework for sexual and digital ethics.





THE
“DIGITAL” IN
DIGITAL
SEXUALITY
ALTERS THE
BASICS.

- where we meet
- how we define private
- what counts as “me”
- who or what makes decisions
- how we get off

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide, consisting of a network of light blue lines and small circles, resembling a circuit board or a digital network. The lines are vertical and horizontal, with some branching out to small circles at the ends.

What is Christian digital
sexual ethics?

And how do you talk
about it with teens?

**MOST
SEXUAL
ETHICS WE
TEACH
TEENS ARE
RULE BASED.**

A behavior is right or wrong, in and of itself.

- Example: Only procreative intercourse is good.

A relationship is right or wrong, in and of itself.

- Example: Marriage is between a man and a woman.



IS THERE A DIFFERENT
WAY TO DO SEXUAL
ETHICS?



EMBRACE
MORAL
IMAGINATION
AND FAILURE.



VALUES BASED SEXUAL ETHICS

- Honesty
- Mutuality
- Pleasure
- Consent
- Generativity
- Commitment
- Trust

The background is a solid dark blue. In the four corners, there are decorative white line-art elements resembling circuit boards or neural networks. These elements consist of thin lines that branch out and terminate in small circles, creating a sense of connectivity and technology.

WHAT VALUES ARE CORE TO YOUR SEXUAL ETHIC?

BREAK OUT ROOMS



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APPLYING
WHAT WE
HAVE THUS
FAR.

Online Pornography

- Sexual and Digital Literacy
- Sexual Theology
- Practicing Doing Ethics

APPLYING WHAT WE HAVE THUS FAR- SEXUAL AND DIGITAL LITERACY

Find out the facts so myths don't drive our response

- Not all sexually explicit is harmful and exploitative. Be conscious of the production and distribution process of the material.
- Most people who view digital pornography do so for pleasure, stress release, education, and relationship enhancement.
- Some people with very specific pre-identifying factors have compulsive behavioral issues with pornography use; it's not pornography use that causes these factors, but it does exacerbate them.
- Digital pornography access has shifted privacy, access, and the range of content that can be consumed.
- Self-made pornography (sexting) is a normative digital sexual behavior.



APPLYING
WHAT WE
HAVE THUS
FAR.

SEXUAL
THEOLOGY

- We are created by God and made in God's image.
 - We do not just have bodies; we are our bodies – in all the wholeness, messiness, and complexity that entails.
 - God created our sexuality and our bodies to experience sexual attraction and pleasure.
 - We, as embodied people, are to be valued and respected as part of God's good creation.
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APPLYING
WHAT WE
HAVE THUS
FAR.

PRACTICING
DOING
ETHICS

- How do you identify the difference between using sexually explicit material for education versus consuming it like popular media?

- Consider people's comments to a posted video or photo. How do you know when someone is honoring another person's body rather than objectifying it?

- In what ways does learning more about your body and sexuality deepen your relationship with self, a partner, and God?

- What values are guiding your responses: respect, mutuality, care, trust, etc?



APPLYING
WHAT WE
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PRACTICING
DOING
ETHICS

Be a digital sexual ethicist . . .

Create an app that displays a few questions and positive theological message that would be a pop up on a person's digital device before they log into any site or send something that would have sexually explicit content.



TALKING ABOUT SEX, TECH & FAITH WITH TEENS REQUIRES

An embodied and inclusive
theological approach to sexual ethics

Digitally and sexually literate ethical
responses

Shared moral discernment rather than
silence and fear



THANK YOU.

@KATES_TAKE ON TWITTER AND IG