

The excerpt at the right is Elisabeth Elliot's expression of the fact that waiting for sex is well worth the benefits that one experiences when he obeys God by waiting. Read and sense the sacred excitement that she felt on her honeymoon. <sup>6</sup>

## HOMEWORK QUESTIONS, READING ONE

Isaiah 25:9 says "We have waited for him." How does waiting for God have anything to do with waiting to have sex only after the wedding?

Your children need to know that sex is worth the wait. How can you begin teaching them this truth?

At the El Panama hotel, overlooking the Pacific coast of Panama, I picked up the phone shortly after we arrived. "Mrs. Elliot?" said a polite voice. I was stunned. Mrs. Elliot! It was only the front desk, inquiring if all was satisfactory in our room. We went down to dinner and as we dawdled over coffee and dessert, savoring the luxurious atmosphere and enjoying the music of a dance band, 7im looked across the candles at me. "I can hardly believe we've got a bed waiting for us!" he said.

The verse given to us for that day was Isaiah 25:9, "Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him."

It was unspeakably worth the wait.



Josh McDowell writes the following regarding the beauty of sex in the marriage relationship. <sup>7</sup>

## reading two

God has set sex aside for marriage for the protection and happiness of people. Sex within marriage brings increased unity and an opportunity to give pleasure to your spouse, as well as to find pleasure yourself. Sex outside marriage brings a momentary thrill, a release, a way to block out problems, but it brings with it an avalanche of negative consequences.

Simply said, sex within marriage is within God's design and is good; sex outside marriage is outside God's design and cannot ultimately be good. It might feel good for a moment, but sin can never be a good thing.

By reserving sex for marriage, God protects us from emotional hurt, from disease, from damaged relationships, from the misery that accompanies sin. Sex needs the commitment, trust and longevity that a marriage can provide....

Just as sex is safe and free within the limits of God's protection, it is also able to reach its fullest and most exciting potential within those limits. There is no fear of rejection, no need to pretend, no need to sneak around, no guilt, no fear of a baby ruining your life. This is God's provision for sex within marriage.





## RECOMMENDED READING:

The Book of Romance by Tommy Nelson

## **HOMEWORK QUESTIONS, READING TWO**

According to what Josh McDowell says, what are the benefits of waiting to have sex within marriage and the consequences of having sex outside of marriage?

One of the things that makes sex so tempting is that it is pleasurable. Contrast the pleasure of sex within marriage with that of sex outside of marriage.

