



helping people work well

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SOM 10 - Sexuality at Work

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The first WorkTalk was sent out on the 5th November 2001. This edition therefore comes on the fifth anniversary of WorkTalk. Stay with us for the next five years of weekly encouragement towards working spiritually.

WorkTalk The DVD pack is now here online offer See News Below

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This is part of a six-month series looking at the Sermon on the Mount from a workplace angle: enjoy the ride!

Bible Reading

Nearly half of the workforce admits to having an affair at work. Many long term relationships have their origins in workplace encounters. At the same time sexual harassment cases are becoming more frequent in the press and media.

There is no doubt that sexuality at work is a real issue and produces many results, some desired and some not, some pleasant and some destructive. What do you do if the only social conversation after work is about sexual encounters? What do you do if the work culture in your opinion is inappropriate? How can you walk the narrow path without being labelled a prude and written off as a freak?

DVD news



see below

Unfortunately religions in general, including Christianity often get in a right mess about sexuality. From unrealistic celibacy to over-indulgence, from repression of women to obsession with women and from worship of sexuality to ignoring it altogether we have walked strange paths.

Jesus of Nazareth was a red-blooded male, popular with women. He lived, worked and spoke in the real world. His approach to life was celebratory not condemnatory and His approach to sexuality is consistent.

So you are the sexual salt of the earth, stopping rot and adding flavour. You are to let your sexual light shine and do good deeds as a sexual being. At the same time sexual anger or disputes will be dangerous and sexual practising of commandments is essential. But sexual beings we are and God has made us that way. When we go to work we do not cease to be so, nor should we.

So the realistic Sermon on the Mount helps us. It recognises that sexual risk starts with the way you look at someone. You can look with respect, appreciation, admiration and even delight at the appearance, manner and style of another. You can see the beauty and craft of the Creator.

You can also look with a desire to possess, use or own. You can look with a longing to steal someone's partner or dishonour your own. This is when you cross from healthy sexuality to lust. This is when you are in risk of falling.

Jesus advocates a love of life and celebration of sexuality but at the same time commands a ruthless approach to the inappropriate. Using the startling metaphors of gouging out your eye and cutting off your hand He is saying don't look and don't

touch in such a way as to cross the line into lust. Sexuality when expressed in the right way to the right person is honouring to God and pleasing in the extreme. Ripped out of context it is playing with fire. It is your light not your fire that God wants to shine. To be sexual and good will only add to the inexplicable life. To ignore sexuality will only add to the prejudice against Christians. But there are a few people who can celebrate their sexuality without misusing it. There are only a few on the narrow path. (Matthew 5:27-30)

Work Well,

Geoff Shattock

©Geoff Shattock , 6th November 2006

Here is some Biblical background for this week's Wake Up Call

Matthew 5 v 27-30

²⁷ "You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.'²⁸ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

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- Click [here](#) to **download** a copy of all the details of the **JESUS CENTRED MINISTRY** event sponsored by Premier Radio, Care for the Family, The Evangelical Alliance, Church Army, Arise Ministries, The Peace Alliance and Prospects.

The details are in PDF format and include Programme Details, Speaker notes, Booking form and Free CD offer.

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- Geoff Shattock is on Sabbatical from 1 September 2006 to end Feb 2007. Please pray for him over this time. You can email WorkNet on the usual addresses and you will be directed to the right people.
- **Wake Up Call tips** - please don't reply to your Wake Up Call we do not monitor that address. If you want to contact WorkNet follow the contact link in your Wake Up Call. If you want to unsubscribe or change your profile (email or other details)-follow those links on the left hand side of your Wake Up Call -we are generally unable to update your profile for you but have made it very easy for you do do it online. Thank you.

Also remember to have a look at the Bible sections for the biblical background to your Wake Up Call

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