

6 Set me as a seal upon your heart,  
as a seal upon your arm,  
for love is strong as death,  
jealousy is fierce as the grave.  
Its flashes are flashes of **fire**,  
the very **flame of the LORD**

Song of Solomon 8:6



# UNSETTLING QUESTIONS



**What Does it Mean to be Human? – Sep 9**

**Why Should We Believe in God? – Sep 16**

**Why Would A Loving God Allow So Much Suffering? – Sep 23**

**Why is Sex Such a Big Deal? – Sep 30**

**Can the Bible be Trusted? – Oct 7**

**Is Jesus Really the Only Way? – Oct 14**

# Christ First Mentality

- When I think about sex I should put Christ first.
- When I think about material possessions I should put Christ first.
- When I think about my family I should put Christ first.
- When I think about politics I should put Christ first.
- When I think about \_\_\_\_\_ I should put Christ first.

<sup>3</sup> It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; <sup>4</sup> that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable, <sup>5</sup> not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God... <sup>7</sup> For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.

1 Thessalonians 4:3-5, 7

*Every two minutes, someone in the U.S. is sexually assaulted. Each year, more than 89,000 women are raped and the vast majority of rapes are not reported. One in every five women in college reports being sexually assaulted.*

Centers for Disease Control – The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey – 2010

In 2015, UW-Madison was one of 27 institutions to participate in the Association of American Universities (AAU) Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Assault Climate Survey. Nearly 9,000 UW-Madison students completed the survey, revealing that **more than one in four women** and one in 18 men were sexually assaulted as undergraduates.

Madison Magazine, October 2018.

► **BEST PLACES TO WORK** 35 GREAT BUSINESSES  
(And Cool Workspaces!)

# Madison

magazine

**318**

Number of assaults reported in 2017 to UW officials

**159**

Percent increase in reported assaults since 2011

**WE'VE GOT THE POWER**

Dane County Committed to 100% Renewable Energy. Can it Be Done?

**1**

Student expelled in 2017 for sexual assault

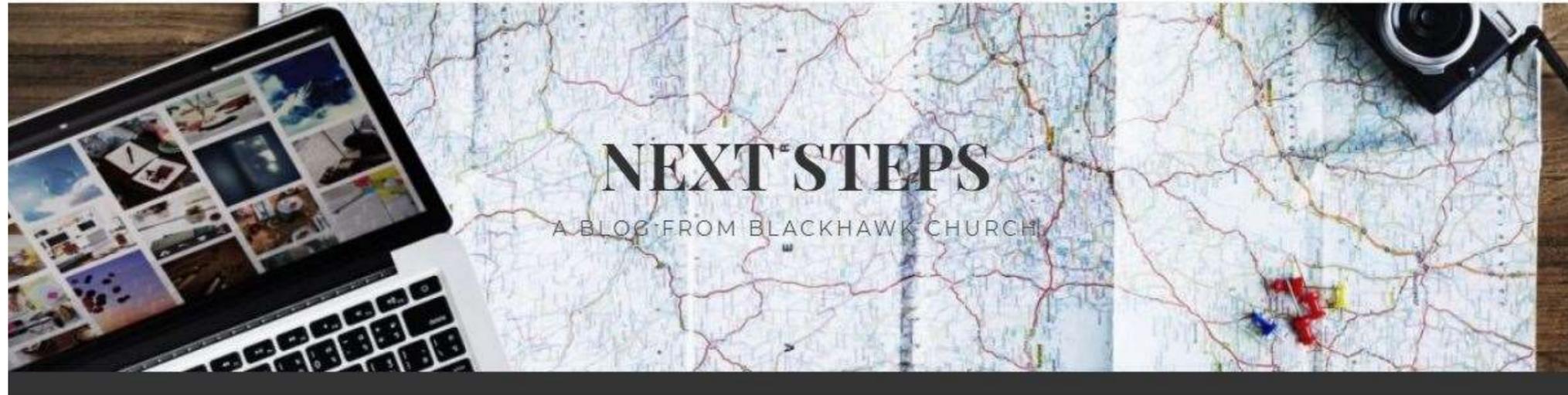
• **With 1 in 4**  
• **Female**  
• **UW-Madison**  
• **Undergraduate**  
• **Students**  
• **Having Been**  
• **Sexually Assaulted,**

What are the University and Other Groups Doing About These Staggering Statistics?

BY MAGGIE GINSBERG

**PLUS:**  
**17 New**  
**Restaurants**  
**To Check Out**

REFERENCE POINT



SEPTEMBER 22, 2018

Why would a loving God allow so much suffering?



SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

Does God exist?



SEPTEMBER 5, 2018

Series Introduction:  
Unsettling Questions



AUGUST 2, 2018

Wired to Serve



Next Steps Blog  
[blog.blackhawkchurch.org](http://blog.blackhawkchurch.org)

# Sex and Faith – September 2016

Why Sex? A Biblical Vision for Human Sexuality

*Charles Yu*

Sexuality & Faith, Romans 1

*Preston Sprinkle*

Panel Discussion - Singleness, Sexuality & Celibacy

**Event Archive at: [blackhawkchurch.org/media](http://blackhawkchurch.org/media)**

- 15 Drink water from your own cistern,  
running water from your own well.
- 16 Should your springs overflow in the streets,  
your streams of water in the public squares?
- 17 Let them be yours alone,  
never to be shared with strangers.
- 18 May your fountain be blessed,  
and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth.
- 19 A loving doe, a graceful deer—  
may her breasts satisfy you always,  
may you ever be intoxicated with her love.
- 20 Why, my son, be intoxicated with another man's wife?  
Why embrace the bosom of a wayward woman?

Proverbs 5:15-20

may her **breasts** ( דָּדַיָּהָּ daddeyha) satisfy you always,

may her breasts satisfy you always,  
may you ever be **intoxicated** ( שָׁגָה *shagah*) with her love.

*“In my view, shagah does mean “go astray” here, but without connoting imperfection or impropriety... Instead of simply being admonished never to stray, the youth is encouraged to do so – but only with his own wife. The term connotes no disapproval here, but perhaps it bears a slightly “naughty” overtone by suggestions of “straying” deliciously dazed in ecstasies of lovemaking. In the marriage bed, inhibitions may be left behind.”*

Michael V. Fox – The Anchor Bible – Proverbs 1-9  
Doubleday (2000) – p. 203

# Cultural Messages about Sex

- Sex is Casual

*“Researchers have published a great deal about the effects of clinical depression on sexual functioning but very little on the emotional-health consequences of sexual decision-making. Many scholars are no doubt concerned about appearing conservative or antisex. So entrenched is the solitary fixation on the physical risks of sex, that most researchers haven’t even bothered to ask about the emotional outcomes. On the other hand, very many sexually active emerging adults know exactly what we’re talking about, **because they’ve felt it.** ...”*

*Their negative emotions vary widely but can include guilt, regret, temporary self-loathing, rumination, diminished self-esteem, a sense of having used someone else or been used, a sense of having let yourself down, discomfort about having to lie or conceal sex from family, anxiety over depth and course of relationship, and concern over the place or role of sex in the relationship."*

*Premarital Sex in America, Mark Regnerus and Jeremy Uecker  
(OUP, 2011) – loc. 2666*

*“Sex is far from a simple pleasure. The emotional pain that can linger after poor sexual decision-making, at any age, suggests a complex morality inherent to human sexuality... Investigations into the consequences of sex have long tended to focus on the physical health consequences of sexual activity...The reality, however, is that most emerging adults will not experience an unintended pregnancy or an STI (sexually transmitted infection), but have already and will continue to experience **regrettable sex.**”*

*Premarital Sex in America, Mark Regnerus and Jeremy Uecker  
(OUP, 2011) – loc. 3238*

# Cultural Messages about Sex

- Sex is Casual
- Sex is Essential

# Cultural Messages about Sex

- Sex is Casual
- Sex is Essential
- Sex is just Physical



<sup>12</sup> See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. <sup>13</sup> But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be **hardened by sin's deceitfulness.**

Hebrews 3:12–13

