

Christian resources on sexuality

Good God, Gay Girl: The Story of Who I Was, and Who God Has Always Been, by Jackie Hill Perry Through this honest and vulnerable testimony, Perry casts light on the goodness of God for sexual sinners. Students will actually read this book: it's raw, compelling, beautifully-written, and it drips the grace of Christ on every page.

Born Again This Way, by Rachel Gilson

Rachel Gilson describes her own unexpected journey of coming out and coming to faith... and what came next. As she does so, she addresses many of the questions that Christians living with same-sex attraction are wrestling with: Am I consigned to a life of loneliness? How do I navigate my friendships? Will my desires ever change? Is there some greater purpose to all this?

Love Thy Body: Answering Hard Questions About Life and Sexuality, by Nancy Pearcey In her typical way, Pearcey provides insightful and practical reflection on gender and sexuality. This is a fantastic resource for youth workers and parents to read, and even to read/discuss with teenagers who want to dig into a biblical worldview.

Holy Sexuality and the Gospel: Sex, Desire, and Relationships Shaped by God's Grand Story, by Christopher Yuan

Yuan shares from his own story about coming out of the homosexual lifestyle and into Christian joy. He makes a compelling (and biblical!) case that the goal in ministry to the LGBTQ community isn't to "make them straight," but for them to grow in holiness before the cross of Christ.

Living in a Gray World: A Christian Teen's Guide to Understanding Homosexuality, by Preston Sprinkle

Sprinkle can be somewhat controversial, but he does an excellent job keeping the gospel at the heart of his approach to ministry to the LGBTQ+ community while maintaining convictions about biblical sexuality. There is much for youth pastors to learn from the way he writes to students in this book. You would want to read this book before you give it to students to make sure you're willing to stand by what it says (that's a good rule of thumb anyway!).

What Does the Bible Teach About Homosexuality? by Kevin DeYoung

This book presents a helpful summary of the biblical teachings on homosexuality. Keeping a few copies of this in the office will prove helpful in discussing sexuality with students and parents.

On Transgenderism and Gender Dysphoria

What God Has to Say About Our Bodies: How the Gospel is Good News for Our Physical Selves, by Sam Allberry

This is a deeply biblical book that explores what the Bible teaches about our bodies. Both robust and biblical, this book is a must-read for youth workers. Read our book review on it.

Embodied: Transgender Identities, the Church, and What the Bible Has to Say, by Preston Sprinkle

Nuanced and biblical, but not to the point where it becomes unclear regarding biblical faithfulness. Again, Sprinkle's genuine compassion for those who struggle with gender dysphoria can make some traditionalists uncomfortable, but it doesn't need to (no more than Jesus' compassion for adulteresses and prostitutes).

TransFormed: A brief biblical and pastoral introduction to understanding transgender in a changing culture, by The Evangelical Alliance (UK)

This free PDF is one of the most helpful resources out there. It's concise, well organized, and presents guidance on all the big questions you'll likely ask. Obviously, it's "only" a PDF, so don't expect thorough exegetical work here, but it's a great handout to work through with your volunteer team.

On Pornography

Finally Free: Fighting for Purity with the Power of Grace, by Heath Lambert

Easily the best book on battling porn out there, this book is a goldmine for helping strugglers apply the gospel to their battle against porn. You can read through this book with an older teen or college student, but reading it multiple times on your own will reshape your personal conversations with students around this challenging and shame-inducing topic.

Love Thy Body: Answering Hard Questions about Life and Sexuality, by Nancy Pearcey

An insightful and theological look at what it means to be embodied, sexual people. Human sexuality is grounded in what it means for us to be created in the image of God. This is likely too heady for students, but will be an invaluable resource for your own development and thought.

Unwanted, Jay Stringer explores the "why" behind self-destructive sexual choices. The book is based on research from over 3,800 men and women seeking freedom from unwanted sexual behavior, be that the use of pornography, an affair, or buying sex. Although many of us feel ashamed and unwanted after years of sexual brokenness, this book invites the reader to see that behavior as the very location God can most powerfully work in their lives.

