

Sex and Marriage Catechism

Lesson # 1

1. Both sex and marriage are holy gifts from God. They are His good idea.
2. God invented sex and marriage for a reason. They are holy and rewarding only when used according to God's plan. True happiness and fulfillment come only when we choose to follow His plan.
3. Marriage is a three partner relationship; man, God, and wife. Like a 3 ply chord it is not easily broken.
4. The natural reason for sex and marriage is the same as God's reason because God is the Creator of all nature. Even from the point of view of evolution, sex and marriage have the same purpose as God's.
5. Baby making is the basic natural reason for sex. Its the continuation of our human species.
6. Pleasure-taking that frustrates this natural reason is unnatural.
7. Both nature and religion show us a basic and a secondary purpose for sex. Basic is the continuation of our species. The second is family making. Human babies cannot survive without a nurturing family. Sexual relations bond a man and woman together as family.
8. Sex outside of marriage tears apart this natural bonding and is therefore unnatural and harmful. God has reasons for His rules.
9. The Church has a third reason for sex and marriage. That is to hold a man and wife together for mutual support even after their child bearing age.
10. Any sexual act that avoids any of the three purposes for sex is unnatural, potentially harmful and therefore forbidden by the love of God.
11. Every sexual act must leave open the possibility of pregnancy. To deliberately frustrate the natural potential is unnatural and a wrong use of God's gift of sexuality.
12. A decision to abstain from sexual actions at a certain time is not a sexual act, therefore permissible.
13. For good reason, if both partners agree, sexual intimacy may be avoided during the woman's fertile period, thereby postponing pregnancy for a time.
14. For those couples wanting a child the fertile period is a good time for intimacy.
15. Awareness of the fertile period is the basis for NFP (natural family planning).
16. NFP is not the same as the rhythm method. The rhythm method is also permissible but not nearly so reliable as NFP. NFP, (natural family planning) is a reliable, science based method of knowing when a woman can become pregnant.
17. NFP is permitted, within guidelines, by the Catholic Church. Mother Church does not make up the rules for sex and marriage. She simply exposes the natural and God-given facts.
18. ABC, (artificial birth control)(the pill, condoms, etc.) more properly called artificial birth prevention, seeks to separate the pleasure from the natural purpose of sex. It is unnatural, dangerously unhealthy, and often less reliable than NFP. ABC interrupts the physical potential for human life. It leads to loveless sex, abuse, adultery and divorce. ABC is the doorway to abortion and the culture of death.
19. ABC, believe it or not, robs both partners of the full satisfaction and pleasure of natural sex. It's simply not the real thing. To frustrate the natural sex act just naturally also frustrates the experience.
20. Statistics show couples using ABC have an over 50% divorce rate. Couples using NFP have less than 4% divorce. Natural sex fosters growing love, unity, faithfulness, and family security.
21. Natural sex, within marriage, is the renewal of the Sacrament of Matrimony. ABC in marriage, robs couples of this special grace from Jesus. Instead of grace it becomes sin.
22. Sexual intercourse is never a life and death need. No one has the unconditional right to sexual satisfaction.
23. Not ever wanting babies devalues all children. It is a wrong-headed anti-human attitude and a hellish genetic suicide. A marriage founded on childless sex is not a true marriage.
24. Nature and genetics form the body of a baby but God custom creates each individual soul at the moment of conception. Many great people in God's grand vision are never born because of abortion and ABC.
25. Our Catholic Church may loose members who foolishly misunderstand her teaching, but she can do nothing to change the truths of nature nor the plan of Our Creator.
26. When we reject one Catholic teaching every other teaching of Holy Church looses its authority for us and we wander in a swamp of uncertainty.