

# What Are You Waiting For?

## The One Thing No One Ever Tells You About Sex

### Mother/Daughter Conversation Starters

- a special word for **moms**.....1
- introduction** to the conversation starters.....2
- Week 1:** let's get real & clearly confused.....3
- Week 2:** yada.yada.yada. & the one thing no one ever tells you about sex.....4
- Week 3:** not all sex is the same & friends with benefits.....5
- Week 4:** relational love & the lesbian question.....6
- Week 5:** sex is not a solo sport & our porn problem.....7
- Week 6:** exclusive love & the line.....8
- Week 7:** starting over & finding yada.....9
- Week 8:** faithful love & the yearning.....10

## a special word for moms

Hi, I'm Dannah Gresh and I am delighted to see that you're concerned about the topic of sexuality. Too many moms aren't. Sad, because everything from boy-craziness to extreme sexual brokenness and pain is devouring our girls. The stats are not good. We don't really want to think that our girls could fall on the wrong side of the stats. But the fact is, I ended up on the wrong side of the stats. I was left with a heart broken by sexual pain despite, ironically, my incredible love for Christ. Thankfully, His love rebuilt my heart and set it free so that today I pass on hope and healing.

Maybe your story is nothing like mine, but you want to make sure your daughter writes one that's as beautiful as yours. Maybe your story is a little like mine and the idea of talking to your daughter about sex strikes fear into your heart. Here's some encouragement for you: II Corinthians 1:3,4 reads, "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God." There is so much in you to pour out into your daughter if you'll just embrace the healing and comfort God has worked in your life through the years. How do you do that? A lot of listening to her heart. A lot of quiet prayer in yours. And a whole lot of cautious transparency when you do talk. Do me a favor: don't give her any lectures during these conversations. Just give her your heart. I promise that it will open hers to you! Don't paint a picture perfect unattainable standard of human perfection in the course of your conversations together. Paint a picture of God's incredible sustaining grace and mercy.

## introduction to the conversation starters

I am excited that you are sitting down as mother and daughter to talk about the message in *What Are You Waiting For: The One Thing No One Ever Tells You About Sex*. If you really want to get the most out of any book, the best thing to do is to read it with someone who will talk it all through with you. No one better to do that with than your mom...or your daughter. This discussion guide has been created to cover all sixteen chapters over the course of eight weeks. Just read two chapters a week; then meet as mother and daughter to talk through the conversation questions. Some questions are addressed specifically to moms, others are just for daughters, and some are directed at both of you. It's that easy!

At the end of each conversation starter you'll find a QR Code (sometimes two) that takes you to my teaching on the material you'll be discussing. Just install a QR reader app to your iPhone or smart phone, scan the code and enjoy! If you're not one of those early adopter types and have no idea what QR codes are, go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and visit the 'Dannah Gresh' channel. You can search for the titles of each video clip as listed next to the QR codes below. Happy watching!

## **Week 1: let's get real & clearly confused | chapters 1 / 2**

**Mom:** On which side of the sexual debate did you find yourself when you were your daughter's age? Share with her whether you'd have been arguing for sexual freedom or chastity belts. And why.

**Daughter:** OK, your turn. Sexual freedom or chastity belts? What's your take?

**Both:** What did you think of how Dannah shared her past in Chapter 2? Were there any parts of her story that you identified with?

**Scripture Focus:** Read II Corinthians 1:3,4. This is a great verse to bring you comfort in the area of sexual purity. Hardly anyone gets through this sex-saturated world untouched by the hyper-sexuality that's all around us. Whether you've been bitten by the boy-crazy bug or find yourself in great sexual pain, today's scripture focus brings hope. It brings the hope that any hurts we've known—when yielded to God and cleansed and healed by Him—can become a great place of comfort for others if we're just humble enough to admit where we have failed in the past. In what areas of your life has God comforted you, enabling you to pass on that comfort?

**Prayer:** Pray that God would give you humble hearts as you share your hearts with each other for the next eight weeks and that you'd both be able to be vessels of His comfort in this sexually broken world.



when God says yada, yada, yada

## **Week 2: yada. yada. yada. & one thing no one tells | chapters 3 / 4**

**Daughter:** Have you ever found the arguments for sexual purity to be trite or boring? Which teachings, books, or conversations have been most effective for you when it comes to learning about sexuality? What would engage you in the battle for sexual purity?

**Mom:** Do you ever feel at a loss as to what to tell your daughter about God's view of sex? Why is it so hard and how can she make it easier for you to broach the subject?

**Both:** Describe the word *yada*. How does this word impact your conceived ideas about sex?

**Scripture Focus:** Read Psalm 139:1-4,13-16,23. This is a great healing balm for our confused hearts. God has “before love” for you. He doesn't love you based on performance or what you do or don't believe. He just loves you. What does this mean to you? Do you believe it? Why or why not?

**Prayer:** Pray that God's love would saturate your heart so thoroughly as you read this book that you'll obey Him out of passion rather than hard-to-follow rules



sundaes, sham-wows and sex, part 2



sundaes, sham-wows and sex, part 3

### **Week 3: not all sex is the same & friends w/ benefits | chapters 5 / 6**

**Daughter:** Do you want to be romanced? Do you think that today's depersonalization of sex has made women less interested in romance? Do you know anyone who is into "friends with benefits"? How has that impacted you?

**Mom:** What was the most romantic gesture ever when you were dating? Do you think women/teens today want to be romanced deep down inside? Do you still want that?

**Both:** Describe the word *shakab*. How do you see it in our culture? What things in society advocate this counterfeit of depersonalized sex?

**Scripture Focus:** Read Titus 2:11-15. This verse tells us what can enable us to say "no" to worldly passions. What helps us to do this? How can you experience God's grace in practical ways so that you can say "no" to worldly passions?

**Prayer:** Pray for an extra measure of God's grace so that you'll be able to identify a worldly passion that should be avoided and a common gift that is ok to embrace.



sexual counterfeits

## Week 4: relational love & the lesbian question | chapters 7 / 8

**Mom:** Relational love, as seen in marriage, helps us to understand the relational character of God. But no marriage is perfect. And many fail. What do you want your daughter to know about relationship love in marriage? Who and what do you want her to observe concerning relational love?

**Daughter:** What are some of the really cool aspects of male and female diversity that make a guy mysterious to you? What traits in a guy do you find attractive?

**Both:** In chapter 8, Dannah talked about the lies that Rachel lived under as she struggled with same-sex attraction. What are some of the sexual lies or labels that you have lived under?

**Scripture Focus:** Read John 8:32. When we really intimately know Truth, we will be set free. The Bible teaches that Jesus is Truth and that's where we find our freedom. Do you know him? Describe your relationship with Him to each other.

**Prayer:** Ask God to make Jesus personal to you. Ask Him to help you to know Him more deeply than you ever have and expect that He will re-write any unholy lies or labels in your heart.



why does sexual sin hurt so much?



straight talk on the gay question

## **Week 5: sex is not a solo sport & our porn problem | chapters 9 / 10**

**Both:** What's the Hebrew definition for sex, or *chatta*, thatannah introduces in chapter 9? How does this help us to define sexual sin? What are the primary issues with both masturbation and porn that make them miss the mark of God's ideal?

**Mom:** What are some ways that you have missed the mark of God's ideal sexually? Not big ways, but the kind where you miss the bull's-eye even though you are sort of close? (Like dressing immodestly or watching sex-filled television programs.)

**Daughter:** Has porn been an issue for you? Or your friends? In what ways do you think that it harms a woman's ability to be interested in a real relationship?

**Scripture Focus:** Read Job 31:1. Job was radical in his approach to avoiding lustful thoughts. What did he do? How can you make a modern-day covenant with your eyes?

**Prayer:** Ask God to seal your covenant with His Spirit so that you have power to keep your eyes and heart pure. We can never do that on our own. Only through Him can we live in purity.



pixels and porn



## **Week 6: exclusive love & the line** | chapters 11 / 12

**Both:** How does viewing sex as a picture of God's love help you to understand God's rules about sex? What aspect of those boundaries is hardest for you to understand and conform to?

**Daughter:** Where do you draw the line for physical contact with a guy? Why?

**Mom:** Do you think the place where your daughter has drawn her line is a good one? What would you like to see her change, if anything? How can you encourage her? Help your daughter by holding her accountable to her standards and by asking about it when she is in a dating relationship.

**Scripture Focus:** Read Ephesians 5:3. God's standard for your sexual purity is that there should not be a "hint" of sexual sin in you. How have you hinted at sexual sin recently? Confess this and pursue His standard together.

**Prayer:** Pray for humble hearts to provide a safe accountability environment as you seek to live lives of purity together.



that's alotta yada!

## **Week 7: starting over & finding yada | chapters 13 / 14**

**Daughter:** Which of the four qualities of a husband, as described in Ephesians, means the most to you? What other qualities do you feel are important to you? Do you believe a guy like that exists for you? Why or why not?

**Mom:** Which of the four qualities of a husband, as described in Ephesians, do you most hope your daughter will pursue? Why do you think this is important for her?

**Both:** How does Dannah's story of healing make you feel? Do you need some healing?

**Scripture Focus:** Read James 5:16. How does this verse say we can best experience healing? Forgiveness comes from God alone, but healing is manifested through the involvement of other believers in our lives. Who can you freely confess your sins to?

**Prayer:** Spend some time in confession together. Do this openly if you feel comfortable or do it quietly if you do not. Ask God to give you courage to share your sins with others so you can heal.

## **Week 8: faithful love & the yearning** | chapters 15 / 16

**Both:** Describe the Hebrew word *hesed*. It communicates that there is faithfulness in *yada*.

How does this concept impact your view of romantic love?

**Daughter:** Do you feel like the teaching on sexuality that you've heard from the Church encourages you about the beauty of sex, or makes it feel like a dirty word? What teachings have you heard that help you see it as beautiful?

**Mom:** Song of Solomon is a rather explicit book. It celebrates physical pleasure. How can your daughter use this beautiful expression of sexual love as a motivation to be self-controlled until marriage?

**Scripture Focus:** Read Song of Songs 7:10. **Daughter:** What does this verse mean to you as you wait for a husband one day? **Mom:** What does it mean to you at this station of your life?

**Prayer:** Ask God to turn the desire of one man toward you/your daughter in His right timing. Pray for him today and ask that God would draw him near.