Webinar summary:
William Mack equips and encourages pastors and parents/caregivers to have relevant, ongoing conversations about sexuality with youth in urban contexts. Rev. Mack provides practical insights from his experience as a certified sexual health specialist, a Covenant pastor, and Director of Pastoral Care with Rooted Ministries. Full webinar and resource available at https://covchurch.org/embrace/webinar-8/

Key takeaways and timestamps from webinar:

(10:16-13:00): William tells his journey from serving in youth corrections to becoming a certified sexual health community educator and urban pastor.

(13:00-16:00): The pastoral community is called to lean into conversations on human sexuality because “we don't just pastor a church, we pastor a community.”

(21:56-24:50): Examples of how to use contemporary media to catapult conversations on sexual ethics (like Lil Wayne “How to Love” and Lyfe Jennings “S.E.X.”).

(24:51-29:29): Understand the stage of the development of the child to have age-appropriate, ongoing conversations about human sexuality.
(29:30-33:57): Counsel to parents/caregivers whose child is sexually active or identifies as LTGBTQ+: 1. Understand you didn't fail -- failing is when you reject your child rather than responding in a way that communicates God’s love and yours; 2. If you fail to respond in love the first time, you can always make things right; 3. Remember sexuality is not the totality of your child’s humanity. God has entrusted this child to you, and your responsibility is to lovingly cultivate wholeness in every dimension of life.

(34:50-38:24): The Church can learn from the urban context in numerous ways, including with regard to engagement around human sexuality.

(38:25-41:56): Every child needs trusted adults to connect with in addition to their parents/caregivers. The goal is to have a support network (“family wheel”).

(41:57-44:53): Craft conversations on human sexuality with children recognizing the difference between your generation’s world (what was normative when you were growing up) and what is normative in your child’s world.