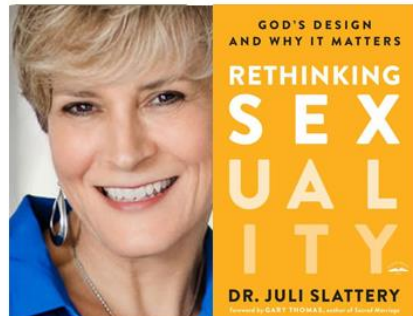




The Evangelical Covenant Church



Show Notes for
Embrace Webinar #9

**Sexual Discipleship:
Shifting the Paradigm**
with Juli Slattery

Webinar summary:

Dr. Juli Slattery, author of *Rethinking Sexuality*, talks about how we can freshly engage questions of human sexuality through the paradigm of discipleship. Juli highlights how sexuality and spirituality intersect through the gospel narrative and our human experience. Full webinar and resource available at <https://covchurch.org/embrace/webinar-9/>

Key takeaways and timestamps from webinar:

(2:30-7:41): Juli speaks to her **journey** of founding [Authentic Intimacy](#), a ministry devoted to teaching on God's design for intimacy and sexuality.

(8:16-11:51): The call of the Church is to move from approaching sexuality with silence or a problem-solving paradigm to a paradigm of **sexual discipleship**. The goal is to reclaim the narrative when it comes to our sexuality.

(11:52-16:00): When we ground our conversation in the concept of universal sexual brokenness, it can lead to a genuine encounter with Jesus (John 4:1-42). Every sexual question is ultimately a spiritual question.

(16:00-19:38): If we do not have constructive responses to sexual questions, then people will not be eager to hear what the Bible says on other issues.



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(19:38-23:59): Two possible worldview approaches on sexuality: 1. Secular Worldview: The most important place to look for truth is within myself. Sexuality is about self-actualization. 2. Biblical Worldview: I am made to worship God, yet I am driven by sexual desires that are not of God. Sexual discipleship calls me to surrender my sexuality to God's truth.

(24:00-31:10): Everyone experiences the impact of the fall in different ways.

(33:11-37:55): God created sexual intimacy in the covenant of marriage to teach us about God's **covenantal love** (Ephesians 5).

(37:56-41:42): Marriage is a metaphor of God's covenantal love, but human marriage is not the destination. There will be no marriage in heaven. Human sexual desire points to the fact that **we were created for intimacy with God and others.**

(41:43-44:50): The gospel narrative in sexuality: **premise** (creation): every sexual issue is also a spiritual issue; **problem** (fall): the enemy seeks to destroy holy sexuality; **pandemic** (fall): we all are sexually broken; **promise** (redemption and restoration): Jesus promises to bring healing and invites us into a journey of restoration.

(45:19-50:50): Sexual discipleship differs from the purity movement. Discipleship acknowledges our imperfections and speaks to the fullness of our humanity.

Resource mentioned:

[Rethinking Sexuality: God's Design and Why It Matters](#) by Juli Slattery