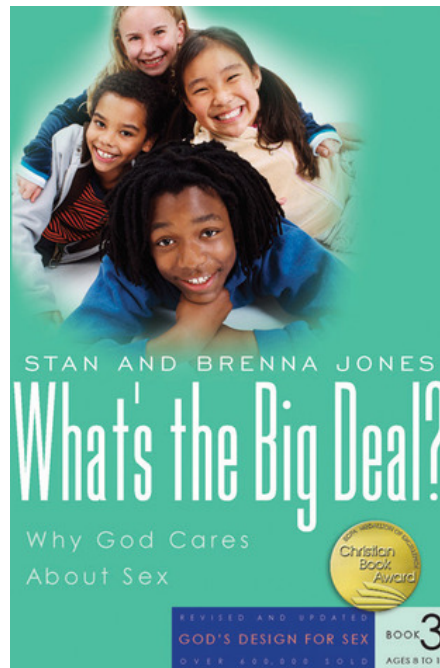




What's the Big Deal?: Why God Cares About Sex

Stanton L. Jones , Brenna B. Jones , Dick Towner , John Tofilon , Shannon Plate

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Written for children ages 8-11, What's the Big Deal? helps kids find answers to their questions about sex. It explains the basic facts about sex, why God made adults so they want to have sex, what God says about sex in the Bible, and how to respond when faced with sexual pressure from peers, TV, movies, and magazines.

What's the Big Deal?: Why God Cares About Sex Details

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From Reader Review What's the Big Deal?: Why God Cares About Sex for online ebook

Beth A. says

This book is for children eight to eleven. It's set up as a series of questions between children and parents; questions about puberty, sex and morality, porn, AIDS, homosexuality, menstruation, and abuse. There is a very strong religious slant.

Some of the views align with my beliefs, some do not. Even if you choose not to have your child read this book, it is a really good resource to explore exactly what you do believe about these issues, and get an idea of how you might discuss them with your kids.

Jamee says

I read this with my 11 yr. old daughter. It is cheesy at times, but is good to cover the bases and talking about sex with your children. I also appreciated the fact that it kept weaving in the message of sex of for married couples. I like how it's laid out. It's basically in conversation form if you and your child were to have the perfect conversation about sex. There were times my daughter and I laughed at how the conversations were written (super cheesy) but the content was a good start if you are nervous about talking sex with your child. My daughter did inform me that she wanted to wait quite a while before we read Book 4 in this series.

Jennifer says

Finally, a book I can feel comfortable having my 9 year old read. I have been reading so many books that are more "how-to" than informative and I just couldn't imagine handing ANY of them over to my sons. This whole series is great!

Kristin Yourdon says

This is a pretty good book for Christian parents to use when starting a conversation about sex and puberty with their children. The format of the book is a dialog between parents and children, so this can help children to be more involved in the book, but some of the dialog seems cheesy and unnatural. Plus the parents are a bit too willing to say, "Yes, you're father and I have sex. We enjoy it!" What kid really wants to hear something like that? Overall, I think this is a pretty good book, but I think the recommended age is a bit young (8-11). I would think that 10-12 is a better age range for the topics and level of detail in this book.

Tara says

Not planning on using this anytime soon, but want to remember about it when I do!

Jennifer says

I think this book was tastefully written. Answers questions with enough detail, but not too much. I wouldn't use it with the age group recommended (8-11), however. It seems much more appropriate for older kids (12+).

Bill says

Excellent book for introducing 8-11 year olds to discussions about sex from a Christian perspective, and for helping parents being confident to have the discussions! Moves from basic biological info to very helpful discussions about more difficult topics such as sex outside of marriage, pornography, sexual abuse, homosexuality and various others. Finishes with a discussion of forgiveness when we get it wrong.

Libby says

We used the first book in this series for my oldest daughter when she turned 8. It was very helpful for two novice parents trying to get through this uncomfortable "first discussion". Now that she is 9, we figure it's time to get a little more specific. I like how Book 3 is divided into chapters by topic, so we can talk to her about the things she is ready for and hold off on the other stuff for a few more years. I really appreciate the Christian approach to all of the topics. I admit I was a little surprised to find that they agree with my own beliefs.

Vaughn Ohlman says

I must say I was disappointed in this book. We had read the earlier two books to our children and had found them very useful and appropriate. This book, on the other hand, missed the mark.

One example would be where the boy and the father are discussing why it is wrong for a boy to have pictures of naked or half-naked women plastered around his room. The answer given is right out of the liberal/secular playbook: objectification. This answer is not only illogical, it is not Biblical. Ironically the answer to this question can be given with a direct quote from no lesser personality than Christ himself. "If a man look at a woman to lust after her," Christ tells us, "He has committed adultery in his heart."

So the father should not only have quoted Christ but have explained to his son that, as we as a church are to preserve ourselves chaste virgins for Christ, so those women should be preserving themselves for their own husbands, and his son for his own wife.

Time and time again the book raises important questions only to answer them with a secular/liberal answer instead of a Christian one. 'Unwanted pregnancies' are spoken of instead of fornication, as if the real problem was that the woman might get pregnant, not that she was prostituting her body in a relationship with a man not her husband. Most blasphemously of all the subject of abortion is addressed as if it were just a 'difficult decision' instead of an act of murder.

Other reviewers have addressed the age issue and I believe they have dramatically missed the mark. Sex education, especially if addressed in a Christian and frank manner, using the medically correct terms, is best started very early. For our very young children much of what adults do is incomprehensible anyway, and so sex is just one more incomprehensible thing. They can be told, and accept with joy, the idea that Mommy and Daddy enjoy each other in a sexual way. They can learn how babies come out, and how they get in there, without any of the discomfort that faces the older child.

It is the older child, in whose body had begun to stir a curiosity, moving to a fascination, for what their body and the body of another might do to another, that introducing the sexual act might cause extreme embarrassment. Or the concept that their parents still enjoy these activities (which, hopefully, should be obvious anyway, as new children keep arising and Daddy makes his physical affection for Mommy clear) might lead them to be 'grossed out'.

And the parents should be careful to deal with this issue of being 'grossed out'. One of the goals of Christian sex education should be to reflect the view of Song of Solomon, Proverbs 5, and Ephesians 5, that the physical union of a man and a woman in marriage is a marvelous, necessary, and spiritual thing. That in so doing they reflect the relationship between Christ and the Church. That the child should not be 'grossed out' at the idea of the sexual act, or embarrassed that his parents should, and do, continue to enjoy sex.

All in all this book represents a great missed opportunity to preach the Gospel of Christ to a lost world through the medium of sex education, and deceives Christian young people on exceedingly important issues.

Myrnee says

Discussing it and reading it with my 10 1/2 year old daughter. It is a great book!

Stefani says

This book was okay. Really, my biggest issue was it's conversational layout... not that I have anything against scripted lessons/books (I also have Luke Gilkerson's 3 book series which is scripted conversation), but this was laid out for a mother, father, son, and daughter, with questions using then gender specific references, which is just annoying. If I'm reading it with one of my children, I'd have to change any references of "my wife" to "my husband" or the question that my daughter or son might be "asking" in the book might sound weird because it's really a question from the opposite gender (and a more gender specific question). I really prefer the Luke Gilkerson series in this way because it's just parent and child questions.

Anne Snyder says

Great book for being able to discuss sexuality with pre-teens.

Karen says

I think that this is a pretty good book to help explain sex from a Christian perspective. It is recommended for

8-11 year olds and I just read it to my 10 yo. I would not read it to an 8 or 9 year old. I felt the same way about the previous book in the series, "Before I Was Born". I waited to read it to my daughter until she was 8, even though it's recommended for 5-8 year olds.

Channa says

My children unfortunately heard too much at public school k-8 and came home asking lots of questions and trying to use words they heard, but obviously not correctly, so I chose to use this book to answer some of the questions and correct things they heard. I was not prepared to do this yet as they are 7 & 8 but this book helped a lot.

Christina says

We have gone through books one and two in this series and are preparing to go through this book with our ten year old son. This is very helpful information, but I'm not sure the format (conversational) would work with all children. I do appreciate the many biblical references (especially Chapter 4) to back up all of the information.

Also, the age recommendation for this series is a bit off. This book is recommended for ages 8-11 and I would not touch a lot of these issues until age 10 or 11, unless your 8 year old spends a lot of time with older kids/teens or is very inquisitive, or your young girl starts her period before age 10 (which is not unheard of anymore).
