Introduction:

- Lauren’s Story
- Mike’s Story
- Paula’s Story

When we fail to understand the difference between love and sex, we are doomed to failure in both our relationships and our sexuality.

A Word from God about Love & Sex:

- **The Historical Setting** – Paul’s Day
  Ephesians 5:1-6
  Hebrews 13

- **The Context** – God’s Concern for Our Relationships

  30And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. 32And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

  Ephesians 4:30-32 (NASB)

- **The Command** – Walk in _____________!

How?
Love & Sex: Why Knowing the Difference Makes All the Difference

Ephesians 5:3-6

➢ Positively – Be giving, caring, sacrificial, and ________________ toward others.

 Ephesians 5:1-2 (NASB)

➢ Negatively – Refuse to take, exploit, cheapen, defraud, or ________________ sexual activity for genuine love and authentic intimacy.

 Ephesians 5:3-4 (NASB)
The Reason: Sexual impurity ______________ relationships

5For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, (who is an idolater), has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

6Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things (mentioned above) the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

Ephesians 5:5-6 (NASB)

Where do you go from here?

… a word to uninvolved singles

… a word to involved singles

… a word to those in crisis

… a word to the married

… a word of hope for all of us

Isaiah 1:18-19
Application:

1. What did you learn from this message?

2. Why is sex serious business to God?

3. Why is sex outside God’s boundaries unloving and destructive in relationships?

4. What does obeying and trusting God in the arena of love and sex look like in your life?