

# The Fear of Sex

No one would have suspected that deep inside the mind of Chip Davis were serious doubts about sex. Chip, a junior, was the most eligible guy in school. Truth was, Chip didn't have a girlfriend, hardly ever dated, and secretly didn't want to go out at all.

Why? He was afraid of sex.

He was pretty sure the only time his parents had sex was before he was born. He had heard them fighting about sex many times, and he knew it was the source of their marital problems. Of course, Chip went to movies like everyone else, but those love scenes were so intimidating to him. All the perfect bodies and perfect lovemaking. He knew that many of the actors and actresses used body doubles because their perfect bodies were not perfect enough. He knew from his friends that many of their sexual experiences were not fun—sex in the back of a car, sex at their girlfriend's house—rushed and just not that satisfying.

Chip felt like he was a normal guy with normal impulses. It was just that sex was a scary problem to him. It wasn't the moral stuff, although he was beginning to think there were some pretty good reasons why a person should wait until marriage. What bothered him most was the comparison part, the competition part. Would he be as good as the last guy? Would she compare him to someone else? Shouldn't there be more to a relationship than sex? Chip felt weird, like he was some strange kind of guy for worrying like this about sex. In fact, he wondered sometimes if there was something wrong with him—if he was gay.

But I like girls, he thought. I want to spend time with them, get to know them, be friends with them, laugh with them, have fun together—without all the sexual pressure. I just want to go out on a date, not make out all night. I want to write notes, buy her gifts, talk all night. Is there something wrong with that? With me?



**"Hey, I'm not weird."**

I like a good-looking girl as much as anyone else. I mean, I'm going with Jennifer, the all-time best-looking girl in our high school. She has a great body. But I'm not going with her just because of her body. It's her I like. I don't want to have sex—I just want to be with her. All my friends say I'm lying. Well, they're wrong—and that's why Jennifer likes me. She knows I'm not going with her for the sex."

Zane, 18

## The Stats

- ❑ 61% of girls and 23% of boys cite sexual pressure from dating partners.
- ❑ 59% of girls and 51% of boys say they had sex because they thought they were ready.
- ❑ 45% of girls have sex because they equate it with love; 28% of boys use that reason.
- ❑ 38% of girls are afraid of getting labeled a virgin; 43% of boys fear that label.

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## By the Book...

Now for the matters you wrote about: It is good for a man not to marry.

1 Corinthians 7:1

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.

1 Corinthians 6:18



1. Is there something wrong with Chip?
2. What kind of sexual pressures do you experience at school?
3. How do you cope with sexual pressure?
4. If a person publicly suggested at school that sex is not all everyone says it is, would that person be criticized? Ridiculed? Accused of being gay?