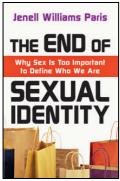
TALKING POINTS



The End of Sexual Identity: Why Sex Is Too Important to Define Who We Are Available April 2011 \$15, 180 pages, paperback, 978-0-8308-3836-3



Jenell Williams Paris (Ph.D., American University) is professor of anthropology at Messiah College in Grantham, Pennsylvania. She has written for publications such as *Christianity Today, Books & Culture* and *Christian Scholar's Review.* Her books include *Birth Control for Christians, Urban Disciples* and *Introducing Cultural Anthropology.*



Questions for *End of Sexual Identity* Author Jenell Williams Paris

You describe yourself as "no longer heterosexual" even though you are happily married to a man and a mother of three. Why?

You state in your book that "sexual identity is not just a new question"; rather, you say, "it's a new *kind* of question." Can you explain what you mean by that?

As a cultural anthropologist, you have observed that same-sex sex takes a variety of patterns around the world. How can this knowledge shape our Western understanding of sex?

What are some of the ways culture defines sex and sexuality? How should Christians engage culture in this area?

Why are homosexuality and heterosexuality not very accurate descriptions of human sexuality?

Can you describe what you mean by "sexual holiness"?

What are some dangers in attempting to "cure" same-sex desire?

What does a post-sexual identity church look like?

How have some Christians made sexual fulfillment an idol? Is sexual fulfillment even possible?

What are the ways Christians have made too big a deal of sex? Are there ways Christians should make an even bigger deal of sex?

How can Christians engage in respectful conversation about sex and sexual identity?

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