

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

for Teens

DISCOVERING GOD'S PLAN FOR LOVE AND LIFE



Teens and Sex: Leading the Conversation with Confidence, Passion, and Honesty

Thursday, April 15, 2010 • 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
St. Margaret of Scotland Parish Center, Glasgow, DE
Cost \$25 per person, max \$100 per parish team

Please bring a brown bag lunch, drinks and dessert provided.

Theology of the Body for Teens presents the two hot topics --God and sex--and "marries" them through Pope John Paul II's compelling vision for love and life. Using a great mix of stories, real-life examples, activities, prayers, and references to the culture that teens understand, *Theology of the Body for Teens* answers the questions teens have about their own bodies, issues on sexual morality, and how they were uniquely created for greatness.

This workshop is designed for those whose ministry puts them in conversation with young people about sex. This "Train the Trainer" style conversation is meant to empower those who talk about sex with teens to do so truthfully and unabashedly. You will leave the day armed with the best tools to accomplish this difficult task, ready to answer just some of today's teen's questions:

- What is the difference between love and lust?
- What's wrong with sexting?
- Can Christ bring healing to me if I've already "messed up"?
- How far is "too far"?
- How can I show respect for my body and still be cool?
- How can teens remain pure in our oversexed culture?
- Is there any hope for overcoming lust and pornography?

Great
for Parents,
Teachers, and
Clergy too!

Our Presenter

Brian Butler

Brian Butler is co-founder and President of Dumb Ox Productions, Inc. He served as the Associate Director for Youth Catechesis in the Archdiocese of New Orleans for two years, after spending five years teaching theology and coordinating campus ministry at the high school level. He has over 12 years of youth ministry experience and is co-author of *Theology of the Body for Teens* (Ascension Press, 2006), a high school curriculum based on John Paul II's teaching on human love according to God's plan. He is also co-author of *The Bible Thumper* (vols. 1 & 2), holds a bachelor's degree in Communications from the University of New Orleans and is finishing a Masters in Theology at Notre Dame Seminary School of Theology.



Brian currently coordinates a comprehensive vocation formation program for teens in the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux called "411." He enjoys music, sports and spending time with his wonderful wife, Lisa, and their three children.

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY, TRAIN THE TRAINER DAY

Thank you for registering for the Theology of the Body Train the Trainer Day. Please complete the form below and fax it to 302-658-7617 **before April 9, 2010.**

You can also email this information to catholicyouth@cdow.org.

Parish/School Name	
Contact Person	
Email Address	
Phone Number	

Total Number Registering	
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Participants Name (first, last)	

Total Cost (\$25/person, max \$100/parish team)	
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THEOLOGY OF THE BODY *for Teens*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is the Theology of the Body?

The Theology of the Body refers to the series of 129 lectures given by Pope John Paul II during his Wednesday audiences in Rome between September 1979 and November 1984. These addresses were later compiled and published as a single work entitled *The Theology of the Body According to John Paul II* (now called *Male and Female He Created Them*). The Theology of the Body covers such topics as the bodily dimension of the human person, the nature of human sexuality, the human need for communion, and the nature of marriage.

The Theology of the Body is an articulation of the faith that is intended to enrich the lives of all people. Commentator Emily Stimpson describes it in this way:

The Theology of the Body is more than an exposition of the Church's teachings on human sexuality. It is, in fact, the Catholic sacramental worldview, understood, structured, and articulated for a culture plagued by a diseased understanding of man. When properly understood and truly lived, that worldview has the power to transform the way men and women understand their bodies and their souls, their masculinity and femininity, their vocation in this life, and their destiny in the next (*Franciscan Way*, Autumn 2007).

2. Is this something that will really interest teens?

Absolutely! Many teens do not understand their sexuality, let alone their purpose in life, yet they have a strong desire to do so. The Theology of the Body speaks to the deepest meaning of why they were created, the purpose of love and sexuality, and the meaning of life.

Not only will teens be interested in the Theology of the Body, they crave it—even though they may not know it at a cognitive level. Teens are yearning for answers to life's deepest questions, as well as a positive portrayal of their sexuality. John Paul II's vision for the meaning of our bodies and our sexual desires is a topic that will connect with teens in a way that speaks to the deepest desires of their hearts.

3. What is the *Theology of the Body for Teens* program?

Theology of the Body for Teens is the first published curriculum that applies the Theology of the Body to the lives of teenagers, specifically addressing questions relating to chastity and sexuality. It is a multifaceted, twelve-part program that can be used in a variety of different contexts.

4. Is this a chastity program?

Yes, but it is also much more. While *Theology of the Body for Teens* addresses for teenagers the real questions they have about their sexuality, it is much more comprehensive than traditional chastity programs. Such programs often take a “no” approach to sex, placing an emphasis on abstinence. This, of course, is good, but the Theology of the Body offers us much more. It offers us a new language that is rooted in human freedom. The Theology of the Body looks at the human experience and proposes to each of us a vision for love and life that resonates in a profound and satisfying way. In short, it is a very positive presentation of the gift of human sexuality.

SAMPLE BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attention Youth Leaders: Feel free to use one or more of these to promote your study. You may want to consider mixing them up from week to week, as multiple messages may help you reach a wider audience. You have full permission to edit them to best reflect your desired message.

God, Sex and the Meaning of Life for Teens

Theology of the Body for Teens presents the two hottest topics on the planet--God and sex--and "marries" them through Pope John Paul II's compelling vision for love and life.

Using a great mix of stories, real-life examples, activities, prayers, and references to the culture that teens understand, *Theology of the Body for Teens* answers the questions teens have about their own bodies, issues on sexual morality, and how they were uniquely created for greatness.

Theology of the Body for Teens is an exciting and dynamic program, being offered to youth ministry leaders at St. Margaret of Scotland on February 12, 2010 from 9 am to 4 pm. This program empowers those who talk about sex with teens to do so truthfully and unabashedly, prepared to answer teens' tough questions. For more information, view the diocese Upcoming Events page at www.cdow.org/cymjoinup.html. To register, contact CYM by calling 302.658.3800 or emailing catholicyouth@cdow.org

Going Beyond Teen Chastity

Teens are facing unique challenges in the culture today. These challenges, especially those concerning sexuality and human and divine love, deserve more than the outdated "do this, don't do that" approach to catechesis. Today's challenges need to be addressed with a "new language" that explains how authentic Christianity makes sense because it corresponds perfectly with the deepest desires of the human heart.

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If Sex is on Their Minds, Put Truth in Their Hearts

Teens are often thinking about their sexuality as they search for meaning in their lives. Now there's a program for Catholic teenagers based on Pope John Paul II's revolutionary Theology of the Body that helps them understand the meaning of their bodies, the significance of their sexuality, the purpose of their lives, and how they were uniquely created for greatness.

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A New Language for A New Generation

Pope John Paul II delivered a profoundly beautiful vision of human sexuality that he called the Theology of the Body. It is revolutionizing the way parents and educators teach morality and chastity to teens, as it provides the "whys" behind the "whats," paving the way to true freedom and happiness.

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