

REDEFINING SEXY – Thailer Jimerson

Those of you who are my more political brethren no doubt have been paying attention to the GOP debates and the back-in-forth so common during election year. Some are rooting for Clinton or Sanders, the others are rooting for Trump or Carson. All that aside, one thing caught my attention that I'd like to address. (And, no, I'm not going to wax political so don't get your hopes up - I'm not that kind of preacher. The rest of you will be relieved by this.)

There's a meme going around comparing the First Lady with GOP candidate Ben Carson's wife, Ladena "Candy" Carson, and the picture is simply pejorative commentary on the latter's physique. Now that Ben Carson is in the spotlight, his entire family is illuminated as well, and so naturally the critics come marching in. But here's my point. Who cares? Since when do the looks really matter for such an important position? Should the people not rather value the *heart* of the FLOTUS (not the mention the POTUS) rather than what size dress she wears, if she looks dazzling in designer clothing or if she happens to be photogenic? What does that matter?

I don't know why, but the natural tendency is to follow a leader who is attractive. It's always been that way. But in my Bible I read how God rejected the man Saul who fit the outward mold of a leader to appoint instead a man "after [His] own heart." That was David, a boy. And when Samuel was intrigued by God's choice, the Lord promptly taught him that he doesn't see like we do - he focuses on the heart.

Here's my point with all this. As a culture, we've grown in our shallow superficiality. We value the outward more than what lies beneath. Looks trumps character. And, sadly, this is reflected many times in our poor choices for life partners.

It's time we valued something different. It's time we celebrated what God celebrates. It's time we valued people - male or female - who live to lift of the Greatest Name. It's time we redefined what is sexy. Here's my perspective on "sexiness."

Women, as a husband, let me tell you what's sexy. And, believe me, it's nothing like what popular media and the world in general is pushing.

It's cliché, I know. But sexy is when a woman is so lost in her God that you have to know Him in order to find her.

Sexy is undistracted. It's when a woman decides to be focused and to keep her eyes on the only thing that matters in this life, and that's knowing Jesus and showing him to others - counting everything else as loss and worthless if she has to.

Sexy is principled. It looks like having a woman that is so committed to Jesus and His glory that she will not fear standing up against your tyranny and giving you a thick slice of humble pie when you, in a moment of insanity, think all this is actually about you and your glory. She will, like her Lord, grab your arm and lift you out of the pit of selfishness so you can get back to becoming the kind of leader unimaginable outside of her help. She will stand up because she has the backbone of Christ and refuses to capitulate to your dehumanizing attitudes and behavior - all because that's what love really looks like.

Sexy is compassionate. It looks like the woman who is so in tune with her people, with the needs around her (domestic or not), that she will tirelessly draw upon the reserves of God's Spirit just to make sure that all people know the empathy of God Himself when they are served by her. Sexy is in the Book. It looks like the woman who knows that Good Book and isn't afraid to live by it. And I'm not just talking about Proverbs 31 or 1 Corinthians 13 - I mean all of it. Her first concern each morning is to meet with the Lord, her true Husband, all so that she can have the strength to go out and be spiritually sexy and committed to Him - even before you.

This is sexy. This is what I celebrate in my wife. And I thank God for her every day. Let's learn to value these things in our church.