

## **Online Book Club: Making All Things New**

**Session 1**

Set text: Chapters 1-3

Discussion questions:

* How does Powlison describe the purpose of sex?
* What do you notice about the way in which he both acknowledges the complexity and sees common themes in the various struggles people have with sex?
* Are there any types of struggles (set out in chapter 3) that you might not normally think about?
* What can we learn from the tone with which he speaks to people who are struggling in this area?

Practical:

As you begin to read this book, how do you think you might use it in pastoral situations? How would you feel having these kinds of conversations? What traps do you think you might fall into?

**Session 2**

Set text: Chapters 4-6

Discussion questions:

* When walking alongside others, to what extent do we think in terms of direction rather than absolute change? How aware of the different rates of change are we? (p63-65)
* What makes it hard to focus on the marquee sins rather than the red-letter ones? But why is it effective to do so?
* Which of the desires that undergird sexual sins / struggles took you by surprise? (ch6). How can we be more attentive to these possibilities?

Practical:

How might you help Tom (ch 5) to persevere?

**Session 3**

Set text: Chapters 7-9

Discussion questions:

* How do the levels of battle (ch 7) help navigate a pastoral process? What might be the pros and cons of explaining this up front?
* How can we use the Beatitudes with our struggling friends?
* Love is radically free to be faithful, familial, marital and wary (p109). How are these truths countercultural (even in the church)? Which can we sometimes over or under-play?

Practical:

How might we use the 3-stage battle plan (ch 9) with a friend battling temptation to sleep with her boyfriend?