

# Tackling the Tidal Wave: Homosexuality

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## **SAY WHAT? ⇨ What has God said about it?**

Lev. 20:13, *If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination.*

1 Cor. 6:9-10, *Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.*

Rom. 1:26-27, *For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.*

## **SO WHAT? ⇨ What's the big deal with "homosexual marriage"?**

### **1) God created marriage; God gets to define it.**

Mark 10:6-8, *"But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.'"*

### **2) Marriage is the best visual metaphor for God's Trinitarian nature.**

Matt. 28:19, *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit...*

### **3) Marriage pictures Jesus' relationship with the Church.**

Eph. 5:25, *Husbands, love your wives as Christ loves the Church.*

## **NOW WHAT? ⇨ What do we do now? [Hebrews 13:1-4]**

- Continue to love one another.
- Welcome everyone who seeks God's truth.
- Honor marriage and the marriage bed.

# Connection Group Questions

Taken from the sermon on August 16, 2015

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## ■ Questions for “Group Discussion”

- How should we as believers expect unbelievers to act when they don't know Christ as their Savior?
- For those caught in a sinful life, what is the true solution that they need? (Hint - John 3:16)
- Is it hard for me to see a person who needs Christ because I get distracted by their sin?

## ■ Questions for “Personal Growth”

- **Monday: Homosexuality: God-sanctioned or a perversion of His plan?** Please read Genesis 1:26-28 and Matthew 19:4-6. What was God's plan for man and woman from the very beginning? Are there any passages in Scripture that condone homosexuality? What about those that condemn it? (Please see Leviticus 18:22; Romans 1:26-28; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 7:2.)
- **Tuesday: What went wrong?** If God created all of us in His image, and His original plan did not include homosexuality, what went wrong? Take some time to read Genesis 3, which records the “fall” of mankind. Please also read Romans 5:12 along with yesterday's passages. If someone were to ask you how humans became immoral, how would you respond?
- **Wednesday: The difference between temptation and sin...** First, please look up the definition of “lust” and also read Galatians 6:8; Colossians 3:5; James 1:14-15; 1 Peter 2:11 and 1 John 2:16. How has this changed your view of the scope of “lust”? Is immoral lust confined to just homosexual relations? Is all sin equal? (Galatians 5:19-21; James 2:10). Does all immorality begin with a thought or an action? Temptation begins in our minds but only becomes sin when we act upon those urges. What temptations are you facing today?
- **Thursday: How to be an overcomer?** What are some practical ways that you can keep temptations from turning into sin in your life? (Joshua 1:8; Romans 12:2, 21; 2 Corinthians 10:4-5; Philippians 4:8-9; James 4:7-10 and 1 John 1:8-9) Are you trying to overcome sin in your own strength or turning to God for restoration? Re-read 1 Corinthians 6:9-11. What is the significance of v. 11? Spend some time turning to the Lord, confessing your sin/immoral thoughts and asking for His strength and guidance to overcome temptation.
- **Friday: A godly response to homosexuality...** How do we respond to the sin of homosexuality? Are we to judge those that struggle with this particular sin? (John 8:7 and Jude 22-23) Are we to condone any type of sin/evil? (Romans 12:9; 1 Corinthians 13:5-6; 2 Thessalonians 3:14-15) How will you personally “love the sinner and hate the sin” while firmly standing for God's truth?