

Speaking Biblical Love to the Gay Community

1 Cor. 6:9-11

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? 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.

And such were some of you.

But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

In the name of "Christ"...

- extreme hatred?
- extreme acceptance of all behavior?

1. Sin separates all sinners from God

... or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? **1 Cor. 6:9**

"unrighteous" – not saved; not in a relationship with God; not "right" with God
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.

By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments.

1 Jn. 5:2-3

... love may abound still more and more in knowledge and discernment that you may approve the things that are excellent. **Phil. 1:9-10**

Same sex attraction is NOT necessarily a sin unless it is cultivated and acted upon.

Homosexuality is sin:

- Gen. 19
- Lev. 18:22
- Lev. 20:13
- Rom. 1:26-27

- 1 Cor. 6:9-10
- 1 Tim. 1:8-11

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. **Rom. 3:23**

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners of whom I am the foremost. **1 Tim. 1:15**

This is a Gospel that beckons the homosexual woman to stop sleeping with her partner, but is also a gospel that beckons the heterosexual man to stop indulging in pornography, married men to stop abandoning their wives and singles to avoid sexual activity until marriage. David Platt – Counter Culture

2. Sin can be forgiven!

And such were some of you...but you were washed. **1 Cor. 6:11**

... though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. **Isa. 1:18**

... you were sanctified, you were justified, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

We do not “fix” people.
We give them Jesus and
HE transforms them.

“... when it comes to our gay friends and family members, many of us Bible-believing Christians are losing confidence in the gospel. We are not always convinced it really is good news for gay people.”

My main point is this: the moment you think following Jesus will be a poor deal for someone, you call Jesus a liar. Discipleship is not always easy. Leaving anything cherished behind is profoundly hard. But Jesus is always worth it.

Rosaria Butterfield – “OPENNESS UNHINDERED” (former Lesbian professor at Syracuse Univ.) Transformed by Jesus Christ and His Word – reached by the love of a pastor and his wife.

“When we preach the gospel, we preach the promise of a new life, a new mind, a new hope, a new purpose, a new union with Christ, new company of the Holy Spirit, new pardon of sin, a new hatred of sin and a new heart.”

For the wages of sin is death but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Rom. 6:23**

... the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. **1 Jn. 1:7b.**

Are we so strong on the truth of their sin that we have lost the love of God's heart for the sinner?

- Do you really care?
- Are you ready to listen?
- Can you share truth with gentleness?

(1 Pet. 3:15)

3. Sin does not have to define us.

Such were some of you... **(11a)**

I came not to call the righteous but sinners. **Matt. 9:13**

Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more. **Rom. 5:20**

God saves sinners – any sin, all sin, completely, anytime, every time.

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, he is a new creation... **2 Cor. 5:17**

... by which he has granted to us His precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. **2 Pet. 1:4**

4. Sin needs to be forsaken.

Flee from sexual immorality **(18)**

If we confess our sins... **1 Jn. 1:9**

Resources:

- desertstream.org
- masteringlife.org
- joedallas.com
- What does the Bible really teach about homosexuality? Kevin DeYoung
- [standtoreason – str.org](http://standtoreason-str.org)
- 101 frequently Asked Questions About Homosexuality by Mike Haley

“If you're someone living with homosexual feelings, Jesus' message to you... is not primarily a no to your deepest hunger. I do believe that discipleship to him entails giving up gay sex and gay relationships. And that may be more painful than you can imagine right now... But, ultimately, Jesus is offering you the kingdom.

He is offering you eternal life. He is offering you Himself in the gospel. Sacrificing your sexual freedom... may seem like a high price to pay – and it is a high price to pay!...

But He promises you a joy so stunningly great that if you felt the full weight of it now, you would literally come undone. Wesley Hill - Leaving all, gaining all” Critique (2011:3)

5. God loves the sinner, but hates the sin.

You were bought with a price... **1 Cor. 6:20a**

God so loved ... **John 3:16**

But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Rom. 5:8

Before you speak to me about your religion, first show it to me in how you treat other people; before you tell me how much you love your God, show me in how much you love all His children; before you preach to me of your passion for your faith, teach me about it through your compassion for your neighbors. In the end, I'm not as interested in what you have to tell or sell as I am in how you choose to live and give.

Klein Family - bakery