



Understanding Homosexuality

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3 Groups of People

- “I’m gay / I’m lesbian.”
- “I’ve got same-sex feelings and desires I don’t understand and I don’t know what’s going on inside me.”
- Everybody else

The Gay Agenda

Only one perspective allowed:

- Homosexuality is normal and healthy
- If you struggle with same-sex attraction, you must be gay
- Since you were born that way, you can't change
- Celebrate your gay identity because gay life is just another alternative to heterosexual marriage

The Truth

- Just because you question your sexual identity as a teen doesn't mean that you must be gay.
- Homosexuality has profound physical, spiritual, emotional and psychological consequences.

The Truth

Engaging in homosexual activity has destructive outcomes:

- AIDS
- A much higher risk of STDs
- Roughly three times the rate of alcoholism and drug abuse
- Much more promiscuity and domestic abuse
- Shortened life span.

The Truth

Emotional consequences:

- Increased confusion about oneself
- Less acceptance, more shame
- Greater sense of isolation
- Self-condemnation

The Truth

Spiritual consequences:

- Filled with guilt
- Blame God
- Hearts hardened toward God
- Cut off from only source of healing and emotional wholeness



A Biblical, Compassionate View of Homosexuality

Homosexuality and Ethics

God says it's wrong because:

- It's unnatural
- It's immoral
- It's idolatrous
- His created intent is holy heterosexuality
- Male-female marriage is a picture of Christ and the Church

What Causes a Homosexual Orientation?

- Body
- Soul
- Spirit

BODY (Biological)

- No “gay gene”
- Personality and physicality have a biological component
- These impact our responses to experiences

SOUL (Psychological)

- Guys: Unmet need for connection with dad
- Unmet need for connection with other boys
- Disconnection with his masculinity
- 1/3 to 1/2 - sexual abuse

SOUL (Psychological)

- Girls: Unmet need for connection with mom
- Unmet need for connection with other girls (for some)
- Disconnection with her femininity
- At least 2/3 - sexual abuse

SPIRIT (Spiritual)

1. Living in a fallen world: we experience wounds, fears, confusion, disconnection from God and others
2. People react with sinful choices in an attempt to fix what's broken and to feel better.

SPIRIT (Spiritual)

"For My people have committed two evils:

They have forsaken Me,

The fountain of living waters,

To hew for themselves cisterns,

Broken cisterns that can hold no water."

Jeremiah 2:13

What's the difference between homosexual temptation and sin?

- Unasked-for, uncultivated sexual desires for a person of the same sex constitute temptation, not sin.
- The Bible specifically condemns homosexual practices, but not undeveloped homosexual feelings (temptation).
- Martin Luther

“I Don’t Understand My Feelings and Desires”

- You are not gay or lesbian
- Gender confusion
- Age 10: attraction for same sex begins
 - Emotional
 - Non-sexual
 - Involuntary

“I Don’t Understand My Feelings and Desires”

- With sexual maturity, hormones (esp. testosterone) can eroticize God-given needs for:
 - Attention
 - Affection
 - Approval

“I Don’t Understand My Feelings and Desires”

WHAT TO DO:

- Invite Jesus into your longings, your desires, your dark and hurting places, your unmet needs
- Pursue healthy same-sex relationships (friendships)
- Don’t keep it a secret!
- www.livehope.org

“I’m gay / I’m lesbian”

- God did not make you gay.
- You have been deceived by the enemy.
 - “But you don’t understand. Our relationship is *special*. We love each other!”
- It feels good to cover the pain for a little bit, and it meets a need, but it is temporary and selfish.

“I’m gay / I’m lesbian”

- If you’ve already acted out:
 - Confess it as sin
 - Receive forgiveness and cleansing
 - Pursue holiness: emotional and sexual purity and integrity

Homosexuality is two broken people trying to connect. You can’t find wholeness that way.

Jesus loves
people who
struggle with
same-sex
attraction



Concluding Exhortations

- Be compassionate
 - You don't know who's struggling because they're keeping it private.
 - Same-sex strugglers are wounded people.
- Be a grace giver
 - Those with SSA have been lied to.
 - Pray for them to see the truth.
- Be respectful.
 - No gay jokes (e.g., "That's so gay!")

