

## Counsellors/Is Change Possible?

### Consider the Following Questions for Discussion:

- If a client were to come to you seeking to change an unwanted same gender attraction, how would you respond? Would you treat them?
- Are you familiar with the complexities and dynamics of same gender attraction enough to provide meaningful counselling?
- What would be your response if the APA decided to make treatment of same gender attraction an issue of malpractice?

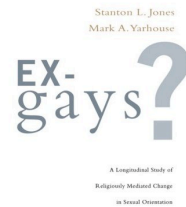
### Food for Thought:

“Dr Robert Spitzer, the psychiatrist who led the charge to take homosexuality out of the American Psychiatric Association’s list of mental disorders, conducted a study to find out if homosexuals really could change their orientation. Many of the participants in Dr Spitzer’s study experienced a marked increase in both the frequency and satisfaction of heterosexual activity, while those in marital relationships noted more emotional fulfillment between their spouses and themselves. Respondents were required to have experienced such benefits for a period of five years or more.”

Chad W. Thompson. Loving Homosexuals as Jesus Would, 152.

### Resources

- Stanton L. Jones and Mark A. Yarhouse. Ex-Gays? : A Longitudinal Study of Religiously Mediated Change in Sexual Orientation. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2007.
- Leanne Payne. The Broken Image: Restoring Personal Wholeness through Healing Prayer. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1996.
- Nicolosi, Joseph. Reparative Therapy of Male Homosexuality : A New Clinical Approach. Northvale, NJ: J. Aronson, 1991.



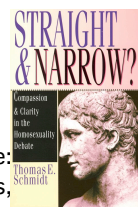
## Theology

### Consider the Following Questions for Discussion:

- Do personal biases influence your understanding of biblical passages?
- Are you able to articulate clearly the position you have on homosexuality? What research do you have to support your position?
- Have you considered both sides of the discussion? Are you familiar with the opposing views?

### Resources

- Thomas E. Schmidt. Straight & Narrow?: Compassion & Clarity in the Homosexuality Debate. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 1995.
- Joe Dallas. The Gay Gospel? Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 2007.
- Robert A. J. Gagnon. The Bible and Homosexual Practice: Texts and Hermeneutics; Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2001.



## Sermon Notes:

Sunday, November 2, 2008



“We’re Sorry for our Mistreatment of Homosexuals”

Romans 1:16-2:11 Jon Mair

“we’re sorry”



To post your comments, go to [www.jerichoridge.com](http://www.jerichoridge.com). Log in (or create a user account) and click on the ‘events’ tab. Scroll down and search for the title of today’s message under ‘past events’ . Click on the link and you will be invited to post your comments.

E-mail: [info@jerichoridge.com](mailto:info@jerichoridge.com)  
Phone: 604-629-7804.

## Welcome:

We're so glad that you've chosen to join us this morning, especially if you're visiting with us for the first time. If there is anything that we can do to help you on your spiritual journey, please let us know.

If this is your first time here, please fill out a "Welcome Card" (located in the chair pocket) and drop it in the offering bag as it is passed around. Thanks for joining us!

### Today's Gathering Includes:

Singing Together

Dan Martens and Team

Announcements

Coffee and Connection Time

Message

Question and Answer Response

## Going Deeper: Reflection and Response

### General Discussion

#### Consider the Following Questions for Discussion:

- Do you know anyone who is same gender attracted? How can you love them in a Christ-like way?
- How can you practically demonstrate love to the gay community?
- What is your response when you hear a gay joke that is insensitive and hurtful? How can you make your response Christ-like?
- How often do you assume someone is same gender attracted simply by stereotypical outward signs which may not be true? Is this appropriate thinking?

#### Food for Thought:

"As a church, we must struggle in the tension of loving and accepting gay people seeking to follow Christ, recognizing their orientation may never change...It's messy and far from perfect, but there's clear evidence God is at work, redeeming gay people, moving them forward in his direction."

John Burke. No Perfect People Allowed, 163.

#### Resources:

- Alan Chambers. God's Grace and the Homosexual Next Door. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 2006.
- Chad W. Thompson. Loving Homosexuals as Jesus Would: A Fresh Christian Approach. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos, 2004.
- Mike Haley. 101 Frequently Asked Questions about Homosexuality. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 2004.
- Exodus International—a resource for anyone seeking information about homosexuality whether a parent, struggler, or ministry leader: <http://www.exodus.to/>



## Teachers

### Consider the Following Questions for Discussion:

- How you respond to gay students in your classes?
- What is your response to the GLBT association in your school, if there is one? If there isn't one how would you respond to students advocating for one?
- How would you respond to a gay couple coming to speak with you at parent teacher interviews?
- Would gay students see you as a safe person they could turn to if they need help or are being harassed?

#### Resources:

- A site designed to help youth deal with questions of sexual orientation: <http://www.becomingreal.org/>
- A site for youth seeking information about same gender attraction: <http://exodusyouth.net/youth/>
- A site with resources for dealing with homosexuality in public schools: <http://www.lnquery.com>

## Same Gender Attracted Person

### Consider the Following Questions for Discussion:

- For males, what has been your experience in relating with males, specifically your father and male peers?
- For females, what has been your view of women? Have you seen them as weak and shunned your femininity? Have you been deeply hurt by men?
- Have you talked with God about your feelings and thoughts? What has He been saying to you?
- Is there a trusted Christian you can dialogue with about your same gender attraction? If not please speak with Pastor Brad, Pastor Keith or Jon Mair.

#### Food for Thought:

"The purpose in digging for the roots of your homosexuality is to obtain insight into the formation of your thoughts ... It is essential to discover how you acquired a homosexual identity because freedom from it and related compulsive behaviours will come only when you recognize and begin to deal with these early 'root experiences.'"

Jeff A. Konrad. You Don't Have to be Gay, 37.

#### Resources:

- Jeff A. Konrad. You Don't Have to be Gay: Hope and Freedom for Males Struggling with Homosexuality, Or for those Who Know of Someone Who is. Hilo, HI: Pacific Publishing House, 1992.
- Joe Dallas. Desires in Conflict. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1991.
- Anne Paulk. Restoring Sexual Identity. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 2003.



## Parents

### Consider the Following Questions for Discussion:

- How would you respond if one of your children told you they were experiencing same gender attraction?
- How can you teach your children to love and respect their peers who are same gender attracted, especially when other peers are picking on them?
- If your child has a friend who is gay is your home a safe place for them to hang out? Are you welcoming and inviting?
- What is your response to the inclusion of homosexuality in school curriculum? Is the school responsible for the moral education of your children?

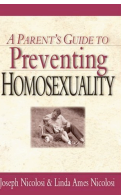
#### Food for Thought:

"All Christian parents need to teach their children that it's ok to be friends with someone who is lesbian or gay, even if they believe homosexuality is wrong. Notwithstanding that, the emotional and spiritual maturity of the student who would befriend a homosexual must be taken into consideration. Before even considering this suggestion. He or she should be rooted in the Word of God and secure in his or her beliefs about homosexuality."

Chad W. Thompson. Loving Homosexuals as Jesus Would, 94.

#### Books & On-line Resources:

- Joseph Nicolosi and Linda Ames Nicolosi. A Parent's Guide to Preventing Homosexuality. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2002.
- Joe Dallas. When Homosexuality Hits Home. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 2004.
- A site designed with questions and answers concerning issues of homosexuality: <http://www.troubledwith.com/ParentingTeens/Homosexuality.cfm>



## AIDS

### Consider the Following Questions for Discussion:

- What do you think about AIDS? Do you see it as God's judgment on people, specifically homosexuals? Is this right?
- How can you practically care for the needs of a person who is dying of AIDS?
- How would you feel spending time with a dying AIDS patient in a hospice? What would you say?

#### Resources:

- An MCC site dedicated to education and information about the AIDS crisis: <http://www.aidscaenow.org/>
- HIV/AIDS community services in Abbotsford run by MCC: [http://mcc.org/bc/hiv\\_aids/communityservices.html](http://mcc.org/bc/hiv_aids/communityservices.html)

