

Fearless Q – Week 1

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT GENDER AND SEXUALITY?

Discussing LGBTQ

HEAD

1. **Where do we go to understand?**

-Search the scriptures

- Matthew 19:3-12 (cf Genesis 1:27; 2:18-25; Ephesians 5:31-32)
- 1 Corinthians 7:7-8,32-35 (the whole chapter if you have time!)
- 1 Corinthians 6:18-20
- Romans 1:16- 2:5 (This is a long passage but worthy of our study on this subject.)
- Luke 18:9-14



HEART

2. **What questions does this cause you to ask?**

-Acknowledge the struggle

- Does God reject me?
- Did God make me in a way that doesn't please him?
- Is my sin really *that* bad?
- Who I am, really?
- This issue makes me feel so confused about God.
- Other:

3. **How do the scriptures above help as you wrestle through your questions?**

-Invite the Spirit into the mystery



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What Chapel Hill's pastors have understood in our wrestling:

God created gender, male and female, and designed the two genders together for holy sexuality, either in celibacy or between one man and one woman in marriage. Both genders together display the image of God: different and unified; man and woman together sexually display the love that Christ has for the Church. Gender and sexuality are important matters of God's truth because God designed the unity in the diversity of the sexes to display the image of God to the world.

HANDS



4. How can we talk about this with others?

-Practice the conversation

- A teenager or a friend of yours lets you know they're struggling with feeling attracted to someone of the same sex. What do you say?
- A widow in your small group is beginning to date again. They tell you they have plans to move in with this other person because it just makes financial sense. They're likely going to get married down the road. How will your group respond?

5. Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Jesus, we come before you confessing our sin and our need for your forgiveness. Let us never forget that it was our sin that sent you to the cross. Have mercy on me, a sinner. I confess before you the ways that I have sinned by not living the holy sexuality you call me to. (Silent pause for confession.) We pray for those we love whose identity is not in you, Christ. Would our love and the abundant freedom that is ours in you draw them near to the community of faith. Would they call upon you as Lord and Savior. Would you rescue our friends, our family, and ourselves from a life of sin and set us free to walk new life with you. We ask in Jesus' name, Amen.

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Additional resources:

- livingout.org— Start here. A website that talks through a lot of questions with biblical exegesis, video testimonies, and links to other resources.

Books to consider:

- [*Messy Grace: How a Pastor with Gay Parents Learned to Love Others Without Sacrificing Conviction*](#) — An accessible book about the freedom to live both in love and with conviction.
- [*Can I Ask That? Volume I*](#) — Offers a leader and student guide which includes how to talk with teens about homosexuality.
- [*Redeeming Singleness: How the Storyline of Scripture Affirms the Single Life*](#) by Barry Danylak— remembering that celibacy is a holy way of sexuality.
- [*Washed and Waiting: Reflections on Christian Faithfulness and Homosexuality*](#) by Wesley Hill— written from the perspective of a gay, celibate follower of Jesus.
- [*Is God anti-gay? Questions Christian Ask*](#) by Sam Allberry— a short, apologetic pamphlet.