



# DISCIPLE DEVELOPMENT MONTH

## God's Design for Gender, Sex, and Marriage

Taught by: Caleb Kim

### How to love "gay Christians" in an LGBTQ world

Week 4 || January 30, 2024

#### 1. How do I love a gay Christian?"

##### a. Gay vs. Christian Identity

#### How can we love people with SSA?

- An unbeliever living in a gay-affirming lifestyle, 2) A self-described "Christian" living in a gay-affirming lifestyle. 3) A Christian living with Same Sex Attraction (SSA) but choosing to deny it and live for Christ.

#### 1. Unbeliever living a gay-affirming lifestyle

- a. Their identity/personhood is their sexuality or their gender
  - i. Carl Trueman: "*equated sexuality with personhood.*"
- b. The Multiplicity of perspectives within this community
- c. The feeling/thought that God hates Gays.
- d. LGBTQ has become a social justice and Civil Rights issue
- e. Treat them the same way you would treat any unbeliever.
  - i. Their greatest need is NOT their sexual preferences, it is the Gospel.
  - ii. There is one category of personhood. LGBT are not a different species. || Butterfield
  - iii. The Gospel message is the same for everyone...come and die.
- f. Build Relational Credibility John 13:35

#### 2. A Christian living in a gay-affirming lifestyle "

- a. If someone is claiming to be a Christian and living in active unrepentant sin, what are we supposed to do? *Matthew 18, Gal 6:1, 1 Tim 5:20*
- b. Challenge them with God's Word, help them to see their sin and need for Jesus.
- c. We are not identified by our orientation or our sin.

- i. We should not be known by our sin, but known by our savior.

### **3. A Christian mortifying their SSA**

- a. **Can you be a believer in Jesus and struggle with Same Sex Attraction (SSA)? Yes.**
  - i. Affirm that their SSA is not their identity
- b. **Concupiscence:** “impure thoughts and desires arising in us prior to and apart from a conscious act of the will; which is sin.” AIC-Report-to-48th-GA-5-28-20
  - i. “We affirm that Scripture speaks of temptation in different ways...When temptations come from without, the temptation itself is not sin, unless we enter into the temptation. But when the temptation arises from within, it is our own act and is rightly called sin.” James 1:13-
- c. **Concupiscence is not unique to people who struggle with SSA. It is part of the sinful flesh that all Christians work to mortify. (Rom 7)**
- d. **Recognize that they may continue to struggle with SSA**
- e. **Pray with them for deliverance**
- f. **Make SSA easy to talk about within the church. James 5:16**
- g. **Offer a community that is more loving than the LGBTQ community**
  - i. **The church needs to represent radical community that can encourage and exhort.**
- h. **Teach faithfully about biblical Friendships, singleness, and relationships**
  - i. We make marriage/sex out to be an idol when we think that “life without sex or a relationship like that is not a life worth living”.

### **3 Biblical opportunities for people with SSA**

- 1. **Singleness and Celibacy 1 Cor 7:6-9**
  - a. **Singleness is a gift, is a blessing, is “better”, and is true of everyone for at least a time.**
    - a. Single people should be defined by what they have, not what they lack.
    - b. Singleness is varied: Old, young, never married, widowed, divorced, etc.
  - b. **Celibacy is the call for all people outside of marriage**
- 2. **Transformed by God.**
  - 1. By the grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit, someone can be fully delivered from their SSA.
- 3. **Traditional marriage.**

1. If God's glory, our sanctification, the cultural mandate, and representing Christ and the Church is the goal of our marriage (not sex/attraction), then this relationship could accomplish that.

## **The public defense of Traditional Marriage and Relationships**

1. Legal ramifications of the definition of marriage.
  - a. Marriage is redefined as Genderless.
2. The legalization requires adjustments in legal and institutional frameworks
3. Harmful effects on society
  - a. Every Church and Christian will be affected by the LGBTQ Agenda
4. Harmful effects on families
5. "Hate Crimes"
6. The Slippery Slope of "Love is love"

### **Small Group Questions:**

- What are some examples of the three categories of people with SSA that you have in your life (1 An unbeliever living in a gay-affirming lifestyle, 2) A self-described "Christian" living in a gay-affirming lifestyle. 3) A Christian living with Same Sex Attraction (SSA), but choosing to deny it and live for Christ)? Which one of these groups have been the hardest to have Gospel conversations with?
- "Identity" is a massive part of this entire class. What are some ways that we can help people see their true identity as men/women created in the image of God?
- What are some practical ways that we can love (without affirming) the LGBTQ community? What are some examples that you have seen or heard?
- What are some ideas that "Christ's Church" could try to "offer a community that is more loving than the LGBTQ+ community?"
- Why is it so important to not focus on fixing someone's sin (orientation, gender, marriage, etc.) when sharing the Gospel with them?

- What is a question during this class that has been lingering on your mind? What do you plan to do to research, study, and grow in understanding more about the topics in this class?
- How do we go on the offensive in politics, sharing the Gospel, public debate, education, etc. all whilst being “full of grace and truth?”

## Resources

- *“Is God anti-gay?”* by Sam Allberry
- *“What does the Bible Really Teach about Homosexuality?”* by Kevin Deyoung
- *“Same-Sex Attraction and the Church: The Surprising Plausibility of the Celibate Life.”* by Ed Shaw
- *REPORT OF THE AD INTERIM COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SEXUALITY TO THE FORTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (2019-2020)*
- *5 Lies of an Anti-Christian Age* by Rosaria Butterfield.
- *Understanding Gender Dysphoria: Navigating Transgender Issues in a Changing Culture* by Mark Yarhouse
- *Argument for marriage not from the Bible using reason and natural law see: “Conjugal Union: What marriage is and why it matters”* by Patrick Lee and Robert George
- *“Defending Marriage: Twelve Arguments for Sanity”* by Anthony Esolen
- *The Bible and Homosexual Practice: Texts and Hermeneutics* by Robert J. Gagnon.
- *Stand to Reason. “STRU” STR.org.*
- *Embodied: Transgender Identities, the Church, and What the Bible Has to Say* by Preston Sprinkle
- *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self: Cultural Amnesia, Expressive Individualism, and the Road to Sexual Revolution* by Carl Trueman
- *Correct, Not Politically Correct: How Same-Sex Marriage Hurts Everyone* by Frank Turek
- *Same-Sex Marriage: A Thoughtful Approach to God's Design for Marriage (Thoughtful Response)* by Sean McDowell
  - Including podcast and other online videos by Sean.
- *Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood (Redesign): A Response to Evangelical Feminism* by John Piper and Wayne Grudem

- <https://holysexuality.com/> by Christopher Yuan “for moms, dads, grandparents” for teaching on sexuality. Video series. And book “Holy Sexuality” by Christopher Yuan.
- <https://identityproject.tv/>