

Sunday, July 22, 2007

You Asked: Questions for God Week 7 – Does God Care about My Sexuality?

Understanding the Foundation

The foundation of our sexuality has been _____ by God from the beginning.

Genesis 1:27-28

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. ²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

The foundational biblical truth regarding sex is that it is a _____ from God between one man and one woman within the confines of a lifelong _____ commitment.

Violations of God's _____ have always brought God's judgment.

Leviticus 18:22

Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman; that is detestable.

2. Natural vs. Unnatural

"Natural" is not determined by our _____, but by our _____.

Romans 1:24-27

Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁵They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen. ²⁶Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. ²⁷In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.

You are free to choose to do that which is _____ nature, but you are not free to choose the _____ of your choice.

Post-fall mankind has a _____ of what is natural.

"Calling it natural does not mean it is essential or beneficial or unchangeable behavior. It is natural to never brush our teeth. Yet we teach ourselves to do the unnatural until the unnatural itself becomes second nature. Indeed, all self-discipline might be defined as teaching ourselves to do the unnatural." -M. Scott Peck

3. Is Homosexuality a Worse Sin than Any Other?

All sins are equal in that they bring _____, but not all sins are equal in the _____ they bring.

1 Corinthians 6:18

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.

God doesn't hate homosexuals, He hates the _____ of homosexuality and the _____ it brings into the individual lives.

4. Can a Homosexual Change?

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders ¹⁰nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹And that is what some of you were. 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.

The message of the Gospel is that everyone can be _____ and set apart for godly living.

5. What Did Jesus Say Regarding Homosexuality?

There are many things Jesus _____ that the Bible doesn't record.

John 21:25

Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.

Jesus always upheld the Old Testament law (Matthew 5:17- 19), which strictly _____ homosexual acts.

Jesus spoke of legitimate sexuality only in a _____ sense, affirming celibacy as the only legitimate alternative to _____. (Matthew 19:12)

6. Is Someone Born Gay?

George A. Reakers, former professor of neuropsychiatry and behavioral science at the University of South Carolina's School of Medicine said, "There is no such thing as a natural inclination toward homosexual involvement. Instead, there are adverse situations in a child's life that can lead to homosexual temptation."

Christianity clearly teaches that everyone is born with a _____ to sin.

Romans 5:17

For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Mark 7:21-23

For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²²greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. ²³All these evils come from inside and make a man 'unclean.' "

Just because we have been _____ with immoral desires doesn't mean we _____ with the guilt or the responsibility that we have to keep these things in check.

7. What Is the Church's Role?

"If you must make a choice between heresy and schism, always choose heresy." -Peter James Lee, one of sixty Episcopal bishops who voted to approve the appointment of Gene Robinson, an openly gay man, as bishop of New Hampshire

See them as individuals created in the _____ of _____.

Don't see them as enemies but as individuals _____ by the enemy.

Living a life of _____.

Earn the right to _____ your story by _____ theirs.

Make the church a city of _____ for the spiritually sick.

Share the truth of the Gospel in _____.

People who deal with homosexuality are _____ from anyone else.

"God is not asking only homosexuals to change," Debbie Hawes says. "All of us are called to let Christ take our pain and make us free in Him. The same God who parted the Red Sea is able to change anything He wants to in me."