

first  
stone

## newsletter

"Let him who is without sin cast the First Stone" And Jesus also said, "Go and sin no more." – John 8

## MINISTRIES



**Jim  
Farrington,**  
Men's  
Minister

## Speaking the Truth: Embracing Common Sense

Forward by Stephen Black.

As his mentor and the director of First Stone Ministries, it is a pleasure to see God using Jim Farrington in greater ways to proclaim truth. We are in very interesting days. In the footnotes offered, footnote number one gives a list of interesting situations coming towards us. We are entering a difficult season for the church and our ministry. Many are scandalizing the Gospel of Jesus with diabolical presentations,

**SPEAK THE TRUTH**  
*in love*

documentaries and even an upcoming "Lifetime" drama.<sup>1</sup> We need your prayers and support. Jim Farrington, along with our entire staff needs your prayer. Jim provides a great perspective as one of our newer staff members who came out of homosexuality over 10 years ago.

There is good news coming our way as well. Truth is being shared, and we continue to speak the truth boldly because it

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is the loving thing to do. One way we are furthering the Truth is by contributing to a new documentary created by American Family Studios. It is called, "In His Image – Delighting in God's Design for Gender and Sexuality." See page 3 for more information about this incredible documentary! They are planning an October release in theaters nationwide.

### Now for Jim Farrington's perspective of Truth Therapy!

I saw some things online today and, feeling impassioned about truth, I'm just going to put this out there. I see so many people out there who malign what folks like myself in ministry do. We are accused of practicing a bizarre ruse term, coined by Douglas C. Halderman in 1991, and used by all LGBTQ+ activists, called "Conversion Therapy!" It sounds intimidating and scary, and it's meant to be. No one we know practices "Conversion Therapy." The LGBTQ communicate that we force people to go from gay to straight, which is not true. We are accused of "praying away the gay" which we do not do. Let me remind you that the devil is an accuser, a slanderer and loves it when people listen to him. Food for thought.

Let me share what we actually believe and do at First Stone Ministries.<sup>2</sup> First, consider Psalm 19:7: "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple." It's the Word of God that has the power to convert a soul; no human will or effort can do this. I cannot, nor can anyone else, magically make someone who is "gay identified" turn "straight" or have new, strong heterosexual desires. Again, it is the Word of God that can convert the soul; not a man. The gospel of Jesus Christ is what we stand on without compromise. From the beginning, God knew what He was doing when HE created man, and then when He created woman from man, for the man, because she was the only created thing God made suitable for the man. In fact, let's look at what God created before He created Adam. He created the animals. He told them to be fruitful and multiply, and that requires a male and female to do so, and in that context, God created Adam, then Eve, and told them to be fruitful and multiply. Form follows thought. I love this picture of God's creativity.

As for "praying away the gay"<sup>3</sup> (a term made up by gay activists), it is a mockery of what God can do through prayer. Straight up it's a hateful mockery! The church emphasizes that prayer changes things. We believe this as well. Yet there are those who think that prayer doesn't have the ability to inform and change a person's heart. This is tragic. The entire purpose of prayer is not about getting something, but about knowing God. Let this rest

in your thoughts for a while. Really think about it. When Jesus instructed the disciples on prayer, it begins with "Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name." It has always been about worship and about coming into the presence of God the Father to know Him. Do I think prayer can change people? If they are seeking the face of God, then **absolutely!** I have never known any ministry that has ever forced anyone to "be straight." What our ministry does provide is the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and He is the One who changes souls. We absolutely maintain that God has a specific created intent for mankind and what God calls good, we do as well, and nothing less. I am not saying that some rare ministries haven't employed aggressive measures in times past that were harmful, but praise God these ministries were never the norm.

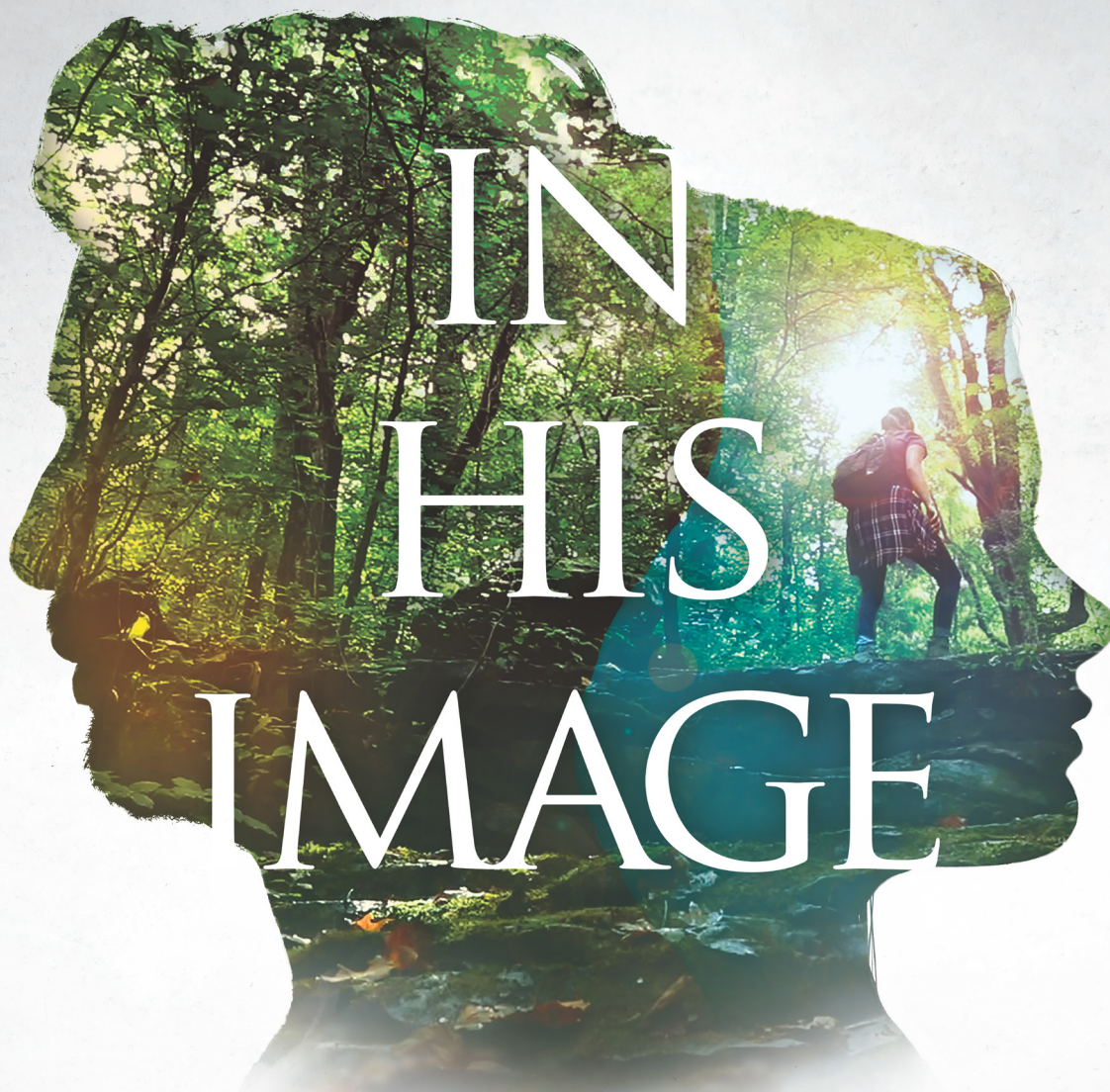
As I have listened to various testimonies of people who have gone back into sin,<sup>4</sup> one thing that really stands out to me is that their sexuality was never fully surrendered to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. In Mark 8:35 Jesus said, "For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for MY sake and the gospel's will save it." They were never willing to die to their desires. It must be a 100% surrender. Isn't this what most churches sing? "I surrender all!" Over and over, I hear compromises, on little scales, a compromise here and there, especially the ones that say, "I'll repent of homosexual sin, but I'm still gay."

This is a compromise; it's **not** surrender. That is nothing but conditional obedience. They are really saying, "I'll give you some of my heart, but not all of it. I'll give you only a part of my identity." No wonder they capitulated and end up in compromise and ultimately fail!

There has never been a guarantee in scripture that we as humans will be free of the human sufferings or trials. These trials and sufferings serve to make us dependent upon and need the work of the cross. There is a promise that we would never go it alone. John 14:16, Jesus said "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever." Jesus told us the Helper will give us what we need to endure to the end. "No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it." (1 Cor 10:13) THIS IS WHAT THE CROSS IS ALL ABOUT! I am not afraid of the devil and his bullies because I stand on God's



AMERICAN FAMILY STUDIOS  
PRESENTS



COMING THIS FALL  
TO THEATERS NATIONWIDE

DELIGHTING IN GOD'S PLAN FOR  
GENDER AND SEXUALITY

AMERICAN FAMILY STUDIOS PRESENTS "IN HIS IMAGE"  
HOSTED BY MICHAEL BROWN MUSIC BY BJ DAVIS EDITED BY KENDRA WHITE DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY AUSTIN BROOKS ASSOCIATE PRODUCER JEFF CHAMBLEE  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER TIM WILDMON PRODUCED BY MD PERKINS AND AUSTIN BROOKS DIRECTED BY KENDRA WHITE  
afS AMERICAN FAMILY STUDIOS FACEBOOK.COM/INHISIMAGEMOVIE INHISIMAGE.MOVIE

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# Meet our New Staff Members



We are thrilled to welcome Laura Beth Perry and Aaron Girod to the staff of First Stone Ministries. Laura Beth has been with First Stone since December and Aaron since January.

Laura Beth is in the office full-time, and Aaron is joining us part-time until he secures his full support. Laura brings many gifts with her to serve the ministry in desktop publishing, artwork, and her favorite offering, video editing. Both Laura and Aaron are growing as ministry interns. Watch in the future how God is going to continue to use these amazing good gifts to us.

Recently the Lord has blessed Laura Beth with some incredible opportunities to share her message of freedom from sexual bondage with others outside the Oklahoma City area.

## Here is a small update from Laura.



"I recently traveled to Los Angeles, California where I took part in a webcast show called Anchored North. Anchored North is a Christian-based film company that desires and has a passion to share the gospel with authentic stories about Christ's redemption of their lives. The episode that I was filmed for will feature a conversation between myself and a girl who identifies as a transgender Christian. We were each able to share our viewpoint with the ultimate goal of me sharing the truth and the gospel of Jesus Christ.

I also had the privilege to return to my hometown for a few days and share my testimony with the students at the Christian school I grew up at in Bartlesville. In addition to sharing my testimony, I presented a difficult message about sexual sin and what it really looks like

to deny self and follow Christ in true surrender. I had intended to talk more specifically about the transgender issue, but I felt compelled by the Lord to share that message. So many young people are drowning in all kinds of sexual sin. You could have heard a pin drop throughout the message. I pray many of them will repent if they have been involved in sexual sin or stay pure if they have not."

## And here is a little more about Aaron.



He has served for the past several years in our Living Waters group and in Summer Group. Aaron grew up in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, and is third generation Pentecostal Holiness. He was called by the Lord to preach at the tender age of 11. Aaron has always known that God had a beautiful plan for his life and a direct call of ministry. This direct calling is a result of difficult circumstances and brokenness he has overcome. Aaron struggled with same-sex attraction, homosexuality, and lies concerning his identity. This challenge brought a chasm between himself living in sin and the devotion to Jesus, and the calling on his life. However, this challenge brought Aaron into real brokenness and humility where the grace of God transformed his life in sincere repentance and truly surrendered to Jesus Christ as Lord in 2003.

Now Aaron is fulfilling his call to proclaim the Truth that Jesus Christ saves to the utmost and frees sinners to become saints in believing the Gospel. Aaron is called to preach forgiveness of sins and giving pastoral-care to those caught in sexual sin and brokenness. He is excited to help people find lasting freedom. **FSM**



Word! This means that true followers of Jesus Christ will automatically get a bullseye on their backs.

I once was lost and now I am found, was blind but now I see. I once celebrated pride and flaunted my homosexual sin. I was crass and vile, yet God still had mercy on my soul to pursue me. Deep down inside my soul, I wanted The Truth! I wanted Jesus! I tried to convince myself that I could be gay, but conviction came, no matter where I went or what I did, and I knew that I knew that I knew it was not in God's will. I was in sin. Over time the proof was the ever-increasing misery in which I lived. The LGBTQ+ is NOT one of freedom! That life is one of heartache and misery for those who have once known God and His ways. It was my desire for truth and real freedom that brought me to a place of full surrender. As such, I can confidently say I am a heterosexual man who struggled with homosexual sin, because that is the truth. It is God's truth. I will close with this, I have continued in His word, and because I have, I know the truth and the truth has set me free. John 8:31-32 & John 14:4. **FSM**

1. Documentaries and Movies coming to attack ministries like First Stone and the Church that teaches the Word of God: "Conversion" ([www.conversionmovie.com](http://www.conversionmovie.com)), "For They Know Not What They Do" ([www.fortheyknow.org](http://www.fortheyknow.org)), Pray Away ([www.prayawayfilm.com](http://www.prayawayfilm.com)), How We Sleep at Night by Jamie Lee Curtis, featuring Oklahoma City's Sara Cunningham – "Free Mom Hugs" <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt9564782/>. Sara Cunningham called for her "Mom Bears" to burn churches down who did not affirm LGBTQ+ behavior in announcing this Lifetime movie.
2. Article online: Imagine With Me A Different Kind of Missionary <https://www.stephenblack.org/blog/post/imagine-with-me-different-kind>
3. Pray Away – documentary: [www.prayawayfilm.com](http://www.prayawayfilm.com) features former ex-gays who have now embraced homosexuality again, and are enemies of the Cross of Christ – the following fit Prov. 26:11, Phil. 3:17-19, 2 Peter 2:18-22. These failed leaders include Wheaton College LGBTQ+ leader Julie Rodgers, also a former Exodus Ministry Leader with Living Hope Ministries, Arlington, TX. Rodgers was also a speaker under Alan Chambers, President of Exodus International. The gay-porn addicted, John Paulk as he boasted on Randy Thomas' Facebook. Paulk served Focus on the Family and Exodus International. Then there is the former failed Vice-President of Exodus, Randy Thomas who is now involved in another homosexual relationship, empowered by the former failed President of Exodus, Alan Chambers. Chambers boasts about speaking on the need to accept all things LGBTQ+ after having apologized to the world and closed Exodus to the shipwreck of many souls. You can see much more about the history of Exodus and Alan Chambers at [www.tinyurl.com/in-alans-own-words-blog](http://www.tinyurl.com/in-alans-own-words-blog). Yvette Cantu Schneider, a former ex-gay, now a proud lesbian, living in a "mixed orientation" marriage. Schneider is a former failed spokesperson for the Family Research Council.
4. Read "Why Many Go Back: Giving Some Answers Why Defectors Embrace Homosexuality" – by Stephen Black on the First Stone website: <https://www.firststone.org/articles/post/why-many-go-back:-giving-some-answers-why-defectors-embrace-homosexuality>

## New Logo by Design Farm



We are very grateful to Stephen Jacobs with Design Farm ([thedesignfarm.biz](http://thedesignfarm.biz)) for creating our new First Stone Ministries logo. It has the image of the stone incorporated from John 8:7 in this very creative design. The stone also represents the soft contour of femininity and the box in the logo represents the strength and solidness of masculinity. The blue also represents masculinity and the coral the femininity of creation. Two as one. So, this new logo represents The Imago Dei, and the story in John 8. It is very creative, and we all really love the thoughtful development of our beautiful new logo!

# Report: Mexico Mission

The staff of First Stone was called on by God to go to Mexico City and keynote the conference hosted by Exodus Latin America, Oscar Galindo, and his board. We traveled from February 5-12.

## Stephen's Insights

The Mexico Mission was a great success. Hundreds of people were ministered to and dozens prayed over during the week we were in Mexico. The First Stone Ministries' staff and our guest, Pastor David Smithers from California, were given many opportunities to teach, preach and minister in pastoral care. It was an amazing opportunity, and several people have contacted First Stone for continued ministry.

One observation I came away was the great need for church staffs to be equipped with truth and how to minister. We are hoping to go back to Mexico with a training on how to effectively minister in small group prayer meetings and administering the process of inner healing of the soul in prayer in those meetings.

A huge blessing personally came to me from the worship leader, Isai Saucedo Lopez from Emmanuel Cristiano Centro. He wrote a song for the conference, entitled: "Truly Set Free!" based on my book "Freedom Realized!" He pulled me aside and told me he wrote the song based upon what he saw in my book. The song is entitled "Yo Soy Libre" – "Now I Am Free" and was sung in Spanish and English. They are planning to professionally record the song, but for now, the recording of the first time it was presented is online at [www.freedomrealized.org/yo-soy-libre](http://www.freedomrealized.org/yo-soy-libre). We will make the new

version of this worship song available to download as soon as it becomes available.

## Jim's Insights

What a wonderful experience I had in Mexico City! It's so beautiful. The Body of Christ there are the most loving, hospitable and kind. However, the men in the church seemed reserved and somewhat cut off from each other. As I ministered to them, I felt that sexual sin seemed to run rampant. I am grateful to experience their rich heritage, yet as is in all places in the world, it is marred by brokenness. You can see it in the people. I had opportunity to testify at the conference and was blessed to minister to several men at the conference and at the Sunday services at a nearby town. I'm so grateful for this first international opportunity.

## Joseph's Insights

I was initially struck by the age of the city of Mexico City and all that brings. I became aware of how clean the streets are. I was impressed by the level of care I saw throughout the whole city.

Worship at these services was so beautiful! I recognized so many songs though they were sung in Spanish. I could never recall any English lyrics. Even though I did not know most of what was being sung, I know the basic vowel sounds of Spanish, so I often sang along with them. I enjoyed it because the musicians were so good! I knew that I would be testifying on the first evening and strongly experienced God's presence and provision for me in the services, through direct ministry to me, and by confirming His great love for me. Pastor Smithers came to pray for me, and God used the ministry to strengthen me, empower me, and to answer the cry of my heart. I was so blessed by this prayer. I knew God saw me in my frailty and that He would help me to understand how to walk out the rest of my days with Him. Though the specialness of that experience in the Father's gaze lasted only that service, the blessing of being able to serve the body there carried on until we flew out the following week. It was a great experience allowing God to use me to minister to several men and, especially, to minister to a 14-year old boy who was full of shame.



**Alex Toledo translates Stephen Black explaining John 8:1-12 story in preaching on Freedom Realized.**

## Laura Beth's Insights

I was overwhelmed by the amount of need for ministry we observed in Mexico City. Many of the

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# Imago Dei



**Jim  
Farrington,**  
Men's  
Minister

The words *Imago Dei*, are Latin for "image of God," and it denotes this in Genesis 1:26a. Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, according to Our likeness." So the word *Imago Dei* denotes man and woman created in the image of God. And it points to something He considered good, male and female. He specifically made them one for the other.

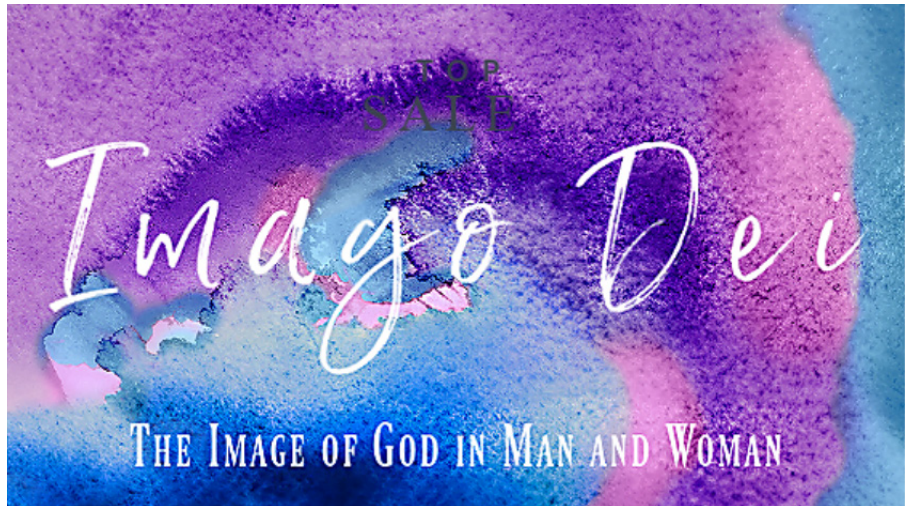
I love the Word of God. Since 1999 it has transformed my life, my heart, my mind. It is through the Word of God that I hear Him speak, I receive direction, and gain a deeper understanding of His promises to get richer and fuller understanding of His ways.

Right off the bat, I want to point out two really important facts: 1) The Bible starts with a man and his bride (Genesis 1:27); and, 2) it ends with a King and His Bride (Revelation 19:7). Make no mistake about it, the in-between is also riddled with the beautiful echo of a one-flesh covenant between a man and a woman.

## **This is not a mistake.**

As the Word of God gets denigrated and relegated to the equivalent of a Grimm's fairy tale in our day, I've felt my heart and my spirit get provoked into grief at the misaligning of His Truth, and everything He has ever shown me in regards to His will for my life and sexuality, which Biblically includes all mankind. There's been this gnawing in me to refute things which go against His Truth. I see His truth being relegated, by even the sincerest people, who delight in calling themselves Christian, yet, with unbiblical compassion, they approve all things LGBTQ+. Many are not only blessing something out of the will of God but affirming something that is clearly defined as immoral, and is called out by God in His Word as something that is abominable and perverted.

Recently I had this prompting to go back to Genesis 1 and look a little deeper, and I saw something I had not seen before. Before Adam was created, God had **already** established the vital component to procreation, the prerequisite of a male (one man) and a female (one



woman), His created beings that were able to reproduce "being fruitful and multiplying" in His image. There it was, male and female. God had already begun creating other creatures within the male and female complementarian model when He said, "Let us make man in our image... in the image of God He created him; male and female he created them." (Gen 1:26-27 NASB)

## **Form follows thought.**

There it was, staring wonderfully back at me, the deliberate divine intent in which God created everything. Genesis 1:20-23 says, "Then God said, 'Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens.' So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' So the evening and the morning were the fifth day."

## **Be fruitful and multiply.**

When God began creating living things He designed them specifically with a requirement for a biologically male and female component that would allow them to be fruitful and multiply. Here we see the echo of a profound truth. He provides what we need to fulfill His command. Since the time I came out of living an out and proud, gay-identified life, I've watched as God has restored my masculinity to me that, at the time, I was **not** specifically seeking to find.

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I was just following Jesus. I surrendered, again and again, every area of my life (still surrendering by the way). In this, I began to notice He was doing something very specific in restoring His original intention for me. I have met more people who have also been set free, and they too have experienced this very same thing.

Mankind was **never** created to be anything but in right-relating, the man for woman and woman for man. See the continuation according to Genesis 2:18-20 – “Then the Lord God said, ‘It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.’ Out of the ground, the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the sky, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to every beast of the field, but for Adam, there was not found a helper suitable for him.”

I tend to reason logically and so my argument is this – If God was looking for a helper suitable for Adam, why didn’t He create another man or a woman, and present them to Adam to choose for a helpmate? I cringe every single time a gay-identified person declares emphatically “I was born this way”.<sup>1</sup> The facts in Genesis point to a deliberate intent on God’s part to create a counterpart that was perfectly suited to meet **all** of Adam’s needs. Wouldn’t the Creator know how His creation would find their ultimate fulfillment? Yet, there are unbelievers who maintain that Jesus wasn’t aware of committed, monogamous homosexual relationships and that these are well-suited for fulfilling relationships. These people are working in a narrative that is in contradiction to the law of God. I find this laughable given that they clearly don’t understand that Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega; the beginning and the end. Revelation 1:8

As both a participant and small group leader in Living Waters,<sup>2</sup> the beauty of the Imago Dei captures my heart. Coming to understand God’s creative intent for mankind has made straight many crooked lines in my soul created by abuse, sexual abuse, pornography, and my own sexual immorality. The devil knows what he’s doing... BUT GOD! God makes a way of escape! Romans tells us that on the Day of Judgement there will be no excuse for anyone saying, “For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are

clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.” (Rom 1:20)

When we look at the way everything is made, down to the microscopic level, we see a marvel of engineering in how every cell is designed in such a way as to perform specific functions like a factory. Even the human body is an incredible, fascinating mechanism of His creativity. This is incredible, and it highlights Psalm 139:14, that we are fearfully and wonderfully made. Indeed this makes my heart glad in the Lord for how I am made “In His Image!”

It should make you glad too knowing that you are not a mistake, and whatever you struggle with, the Word of God brings clarity and understanding. It all starts with The Word, who is a person, Jesus Christ. (John 1:1)

God does not make mistakes! While we often do, we would do well to remember that our feelings do not trump the truth of God’s Word or His divine intent on how he has created man and woman. I see the Truth so clearly now. It so amazing and yet it frustrates me to no end to see what God has created becoming tools in the hands of the devil because of disobedience. (Ephesians 5:6.) The church desperately needs to wake up! For this reason, in our days of darkness, scripture is clear, “Awake, sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you” Eph5:14, and show you His Image in you... Imago Dei! **FSM**

1. The science is in: Genome Wide Associative Study, (GWAS) No One Is Born Gay – See post at: <https://www.stephenblack.org/blog/post/no-one-born-gay-gwas>
2. Living Waters is program First Stone Ministries hosts that ministers relational and sexual redemption, developed by Andrew Comiskey with Desert Stream Ministries <https://www.desertstream.org>.

## Covenant Eyes is for Quitters.

The #1 App for Quitting Porn

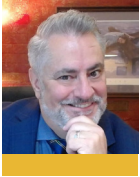


[firststone.org/covenant-eyes](https://firststone.org/covenant-eyes)



# Six "Supremes" Vote for the United States to Make LGBTQ+ Behavior Equal to Race and Sex

Landmark Case: Bostick vs. Clayton County, June 15, 2020



**Stephen Black,**  
Executive  
Director

If you have not been paying attention, this may come to you as shocking. We were saddened to see Justice Neil Gorsuch proudly embrace LGBTQ+ orientations as equal to race and sex/gender. He was supposedly a constitutionalist and a conservative justice. Unfortunately, 'Team Trump' really messed up big time as they did not recognize that they picked a man who goes to a very liberal pro-gay church. Certainly, in embracing such an unbiblical "Christianity" his so-called morality would be more in alignment with Democrats, which of course is no morality at all when it comes to human sexuality. This may seem like a harsh statement; however, the facts of this ruling speak for themselves. This ruling will be haunting for many years to come as an all-out-assault on God's divine intent for human sexuality, schools, children, and the church. These six "Supremes" are in-fact warring against God, women, minorities, and children in riding along with Democrat party platform agendas. This ruling is tragic for women, minorities, and children, as it is only a matter of time before women and minorities are completely marginalized into nothing meaningful. Women sports are already being decimated by men who are 'tranning' – meaning transitioning into so-called women. This is impossible, as men cannot become women, neither can a woman become a man. But, try telling these six "Supremes" that these male to female (M2F) trannies are not equal women. They just voted it so! Now employers must embrace this mental illness as equal to race and sex(gender) as well.

These "Supremes" have violated God's righteous laws by ruling to amend the 1964 Civil Rights to force all employers to embrace all things LGBTQ+ behavior to be equal. The Supreme Gorsuch pats himself on the back with communicating a mere subsequent religious exemption, which actually means nothing for the LGBTQ+ cult mentality. We all know the politically motivated LGBTQ+ bullies will never stop demanding for everyone to embrace LGBTQ+ behavior or else face brutal lawsuits and attacks of every kind. Please pay attention to the "+" plus sign as these behaviors/orientations according to the American Psychological Association also embrace "minor-attracted person" and polyamorous/polygamists as normative orientations to also be included. Yes, the "+" plus sign really does mean a very dark spiraling downward into the grossest of perversions and is part of the Democrat platform.



Please pay attention friends, as the next phase of the political LGBTQ+ agenda is to attack ministries like First Stone with strong manipulative propaganda documentaries to shape the public opinion as you can read in the main article footnotes on page 5. The Human Rights Campaign, The Southern Poverty Law Center, The Trevor Project, and many other gangs of LGBTQ+ cult leaders are already attacking therapy, counseling, schools and churches with their propaganda. They are coming with anti-therapy laws, pro-LGBTQ+ education from K-12, demands that all colleges and universities embrace their lifestyles, and now all employers; next is for all private education offerings and churches to submit.

This mentality of back-stabbing betrayal and frontal assault comes directly from former colleagues who are apostates now having gone back into homosexuality. Here's one mission statement: **"We are dedicated to full inclusion for LGBTQ+ people through education and advocacy by confronting religion-based stigma, conversion therapy, ex-gay ministry, and all other attempts to change or repress LGBTQ+ people's innate sexuality and identity."**

The LGBTQ+ policymakers are not hiding anymore! These "Supremes" have only empowered the LGBTQ+ bullies to come full-force after your children, schools, churches, and every single home to force acceptance and compliance to their unnatural behaviors. Well, we have the so-called conservative sell-outs, The Supreme Neil Gorsuch and The Supreme John Roberts who believe themselves to be Black-robed gods for this tragic ruling.

FSM

people there exhibited such hunger for healing from deep wounds they had carried for much of their lives. Many of them had not only never received healing from the pain, but most had also never had any discipleship in the faith. Many crowded the altar, crying out to God from the depths of their soul. We did not need to speak their language to understand their cries.

One girl really touched my heart. She was a mess of emotions, talking faster than our translator could keep up. She confided that her husband of seventeen years had left her, and she was bouncing back and forth between deep, unbearable grief and bitter anger that was causing her to want to retaliate and hurt him. Eventually she admitted the truth that he was in fact, not her husband, but a boyfriend. I was conflicted for a moment, realizing she was in desperate emotional trauma and my sympathetic nature wanted to ease her suffering with words of comfort. But the Holy Spirit pushed me to push back on her a little and help her to see her sin. I suddenly realized that she was in the state she was in, not just because of the abandonment, but because she had been living in unrepentant sexual sin for seventeen years. So, I reminded her of the grave sin she had been committing and of the serious consequences of those actions.

She admitted she knew she had been living in sin. I said, "Perhaps God had mercy on you in getting you out of this relationship. You need to thank Him for His grace." She was stunned that I had said this. But after helping her face the sin she began to really break down. I felt more prompting of the Holy Spirit to ask about her salvation. Though she had invited Jesus into her heart as a little girl, she had never really followed Him or trusted in Him. With sincere repentance, she let the illicit relationship go and turned fully to Jesus and put her faith in Him. I saw such a change in her countenance as the burden of so many years of sin rolled away. I was able to share about the agony of leaving my partner several years ago and how difficult it was not to return to him. She promised that she would trust Jesus to bring her through all the pain even though she knew some very tough days were ahead.

### Laura Leigh's Insights

My husband, Mark, travelled with us on this trip. This caused me to approach the trip differently as we had never travelled to minister together. We were immersed in a non-English culture. I spoke on the first night about a receptive heart. I was surprised by the responsiveness of the conference attendees to that message. God strengthened people to respond to Him and to yield their uncertainties, fears, and judgments to Him. I experienced God slowing me down, patiently finding a way forward in the ministry time. It did

take that time for hearts to open to God's ministry. The response was powerful.

Mark and I were deeply impacted by the place, the people, and the opportunities. We both were deeply moved by the Sunday ministry at a church in a nearby town. We were greeted there so warmly but had no idea what we were stepping in to. We thought we were going to a little church. When we were escorted into the meeting room there were several hundred worshipers there! Stephen preached with the capable and anointed translator, Alex Toledo. The people were gripped and challenged and the alter call had a very large response. After we had ministered for some time there, each of the team were taken individually to another place where we found many people with great needs expecting us to minister to these. It was frankly a little disorienting and we each ministered to person after person until the rooms were empty. Then, our escorts took us again into a second service and we did it all over again to a larger crowd. Wow. Mark and I were very impacted by that day.

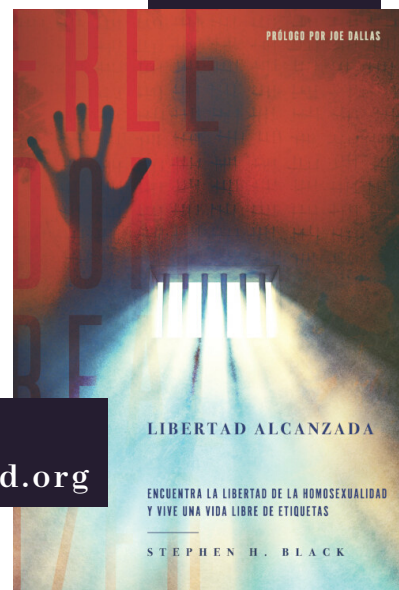
At the end of the formal ministry plan, FSM remained for two days more to see the city and to invest time in the relationships. This opportunity for the FSM Staff really clarified the need for ongoing training for the Christians of Latin America to see them equipped to do the work of ministry in sexual redemption. We hope to return to do just that exactly. **FSM**

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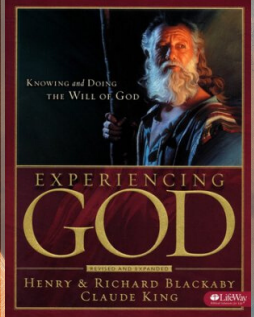




# Groups

**SUPPORT GROUP**

**SUMMER GROUP**  
STARTING THURS, JUL 23, 2020



**APPLICATION REQUIRED**  
[FIRSTSTONE.ORG/SUMMER-GROUP](http://FIRSTSTONE.ORG/SUMMER-GROUP)

**SUPPORT GROUP**

**PARENTS, FAMILY & FRIENDS**  
1ST & 3RD FRIDAYS

Ministering hope and providing support for those whose loved ones identify themselves as homosexual, lesbian, transgender or transexual.

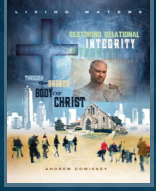


**APPLICATION REQUIRED**  
[FIRSTSTONE.ORG/PARENTS-GROUP](http://FIRSTSTONE.ORG/PARENTS-GROUP)

**SUPPORT GROUP**

**LIVING WATERS**  
STARTING THURS, OCT 8, 2020

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**APPLICATION REQUIRED**  
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# Staff



**Stephen Black**  
Executive Director



**Laura Leigh Stanlake**  
Dir. of Women's Ministries



**Joseph Theissen**  
Office Administrator



**Jim Farrington**  
Men's Minister



**LauraBeth Perry**  
Women's Minister Intern



**Aaron Giron**  
Men's Minister Intern

For more information about each staff member or to contact us, please visit [firststone.org/staff](http://firststone.org/staff).

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