

Brian Chesemore

SESSION 4 | Ministering with Grace & Conviction for Those with Sexual Sin and Brokenness

Important Note: *For this final session, I am particularly indebted to Andrew Walker and his excellent book, [God and the Transgender Debate: What Does the Bible Actually Say about Gender Identity?](#)*

I. A Trajectory of Hope¹

- A. All Creation Groans and Longs to Be Made New

- B. We too “Groan” as we Await

- C. All Things Will Be Made New

“We live in a Genesis 3 world with a Genesis 1 blueprint on the trajectory to a Revelation 21 future.”²

II. In a Fallen World Christ is our Savior and Shepherd

- A. Flee Secrecy

- B. Recognize Authority

- C. Rest in your Identity (2 Cor. 5.17)

- D. Carry Your Cross (Matthew 16. 24-25)
 - Luke 18.29-30.

¹ Adapted from Walker, Andrew T. *God and the Transgender Debate*. (Crossway Books, Wheaton, Ill, 2017). Pg. 82-83.

² Walker, Andrew T. *God and the Transgender Debate*. (Crossway Books, Wheaton, Ill, 2017). Pg. 88

- 2 Cor. 12.9-10

E. Lengthen Your Timeline of Transformation

“If you think that one week of “shock and awe” combat will win this war of redemption, you’re bound to be disappointed. IF you’re looking for some magic, an easy answer, a one-and-done solution, then you’ll never really understand the nature of the honest fight. And if you promise easy, once-for-all victories to others, then you’ll never be much help to other strugglers...God works step-by-step. He walks with you. He’s always interested in how you take your very next step. Walking with him feels right. You’re going somewhere. The day of “completion” will not arrive until the day when Jesus Christ arrives (Phil. 1.6). When we see him, then we will be like him (1 John 3.2). Only when God lives visibly in our midst will all tears be past (Rev. 21:3-4). Someday, not today, everything being renewed will be entirely new (Rev. 21:5). Much of the failure to right well, befriend well, pastor well, and counsel well arises because we don’t really understand and work well with this long truth.”³

III. In a Fallen World, We are Called to Love Our Neighbors⁴

A. Love others with Dignity

Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, after our likeness’...So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. (Gen. 1:26 -27)

B. Love Others By Humble Association

SSA, Homosexual desire, and Gender Dysphoria reflect a variety of the sinful desires we all experience. Ministering to individuals dealing with homosexual desires requires the humility of personal association.

C. Love others with Compassion and Empathy

SSA, Homosexual desire, and Gender Dysphoria have unique aspects. Ministering to individuals dealing with same sex desire requires the humility of acknowledging the limitations of your experience.

³ Powlison, David. *Making All Things New: Restoring Joy to the Sexually Broken* (Crossway Books, Wheaton, Ill, 2017). Pgs. 59-60

⁴ This section was informed by Walker’s book and Dr. Jeremy Pierre’s lecture, *Ministering with Grace and Conviction for those with Same Sex Attraction*

D. Love Others with the Truth

“Love does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.” (1 Cor. 13.6)

SSA, Homosexual desire, and Gender Dysphoria are contrary to God’s design, both at the level of desire and action. Like any other sexual desire outside God’s good design, such desire and action does not lead to joy and life, but to disillusionment and death. So love can’t end with questions.

E. Love Others With Your Confidence in the Gospel

SSA, Homosexual desire, and Gender Dysphoria, like all sinful impulses, cannot separate a person from the redemptive love of Christ. Ministering to individuals dealing with same sex desire requires confidence in the power of the gospel to keep them from sin’s rule over their lives.

RECOMMENDED READING

- David Powlison: Making All Things New
- Andrew Walker: God and the Transgender Debate
- Vaughan Roberts: Transgender
- Rosaria Butterfield: The Secret Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert
- Nancy Pearcy: Love Thy Body
- Kevin DeYoung: What Does the Bible Really Teach About Homosexuality?
- Sam Allberry: Is God Anti-Gay?
- Denny Burk: Transforming Homosexuality
- Piper and Taylor, eds., Sex and the Supremacy of Christ, esp. Al Mohler, Homosexual Marriage as a Challenge to the Church
- John Ensor: Doing Things Right in Matters of the Heart
- CBMW: Council of Biblical Manhood & Womanhood (<https://www.cbmw.org/>)