

Summit Woods Baptist Church
First Corinthians Sermon Study Equipping Class

Biblically Addressing Homosexuality

This week's lesson is a bit different from our usual lessons. Last week's passage (1 Corinthians 6:9-11) specifically mentioned homosexuality. Since the Bible's declarations concerning homosexuality are in such stark contrast to those of the world around us, Pastor Bret is going to spend an extra week on this topic, helping us to think through what the Bible says about homosexuality and what we, as God's people, are to do in light of the Scriptures.

❖ Day 1

Read Genesis 1 and observe all of the separations, gatherings, and things that are limited "according to their kind."

1. What does God declare about creation when these things are in their proper order?
2. Fill in the blanks verse 27. "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; _____ and _____ he created them."
3. What command did God give to the man and woman in verse 28?
 - a. How does this command indicate that homosexual relations were not part of God's established order in creation?

Read Leviticus 18. (In the Old Testament, the phrase "uncover nakedness" almost always refers to sexual relations.)

4. Look again at verses 1-5. In these verses, what are God's people *not* supposed to do? (Who are they not supposed to live like?)
 - a. What are God's people supposed to do?
 - b. What is the basis for why God's people are to do what they are supposed to do? (see verses 2b, 4b, and 5b)

Summit Woods Baptist Church

First Corinthians Sermon Study Equipping Class

- c. So then, what is the heart issue at stake for God's people?

5. In what ways do we face the same temptation to be like the unbelieving world today that the Israelites faced in Moses' day?

6. Which verse in Leviticus 18 prohibits homosexual relations?

7. What is to be done with “everyone who does any of these abominations”? (see verse 29)

8. How does this relate to Paul's instructions to the Corinthian church in 1 Corinthians 5?

Read Leviticus 20:13, 22-26.

9. Who carries on the separations and maintains the order that God began in Genesis?

10. In verse 26, what command does God give to His people and what reason does He give for the command?

Summit Woods Baptist Church
First Corinthians Sermon Study Equipping Class

❖ Day 2

Read Romans 1:14-32.

11. Homosexuality is specifically mentioned in verses 26-27. In the context of the whole chapter, is homosexuality the root sin or a consequential sin?
12. What is the root sin? (see verses 18b, 22-23, 25, & 28a)
13. What is God's response to the root sin? (see verses 24a, 26a, and 28b)
14. According to verse 32, what is the final penalty for all unrighteousness?
15. Look again at verses 14-17. What is the only way for any sinner to escape the judgment and wrath of God?
16. Does the phrase "everyone who believes" in verse 16 exclude any category of sinners?
17. When sharing the gospel, should we focus on addressing the root sin or the consequential sin? Explain.

Summit Woods Baptist Church
First Corinthians Sermon Study Equipping Class

18. When witnessing to a homosexual, what is the primary thing for which they need to repent?

Read 1 Timothy 1:8-11, 15-16.

19. What phrase in verses 8-11 lets us know that Paul's list of sins, including homosexuality, is just a sampling of the full array of "ungodly and ... unholy" behaviors?

20. Look at Paul's description of himself in verse 15. What should his example remind us about ourselves as we seek to share the gospel with others?

Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 and look at your answers to Questions #6 and #12 from last week's lesson.

21. How should this influence our attitude and expectation toward engaging homosexuals (and all lost people) with the gospel?

❖ Day 3

In light of all of the passages we read this week...

22. Is homosexuality something new?

23. Is homosexuality distinguished as worse or more notorious than other sins?

Summit Woods Baptist Church
First Corinthians Sermon Study Equipping Class

24. Is it uncommon for God's people to dwell among those who practice or promote homosexuality?
25. Should the knowledge that someone is engaged in a homosexual lifestyle change the way you present the gospel to him or her compared to any other sinner? Explain.
26. How have you seen Christians interact with homosexuals in ways that do not honor God or the gospel (either too accepting or too rejecting)?
27. List some examples of God-honoring ways that we can engage homosexuals with the gospel.

In preparation for Sunday, pray that our minds would be conformed to God's Word in any areas where we have been following the world's wisdom. Pray that we would stand firm on God's Word and that we would graciously and joyfully endure any persecution that comes as a result of honoring God. Pray that we would look for opportunities to lovingly and clearly share the gospel with all of the lost around us.