

## Lesson 7: Sexual Morality, Part 2 – Same-Sex Relationships

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**The “Modern” Challenge:** How can I talk with the people in my life who struggle with same-sex attraction?

- Remember: When talking to many people, especially teens, feelings “feel like” facts.
- Recognize: These subjects may be hard to hear, so please keep in mind that God’s plans are motivated out of love.
- Readiness: One-on-one conversations are READILY available, and even when we have stumbled, love and support are available.

**The Truth:** Human sexuality is designed, created, and regulated by God for our good. It is sinful and harmful to violate God’s commands. People need and deserve thoughtful and caring teaching on these subjects.

### #1.) Overview of Bible Passages

- Abraham lived in approximately 2165 B.C. We can quickly recognize this is not a new issue. Sodom was guilty of many sins. See Ezekiel 16:49 along with Genesis 19:7-8. Are there any details in Genesis 19 that demonstrate homosexuality is sinful, not just rape or the lack of hospitality?
- The Law of Moses: Leviticus 18:19-23 and 20:13. Not every sin is described as an abomination, but this one is. Other sexual sins described as abominations seem to involve violating multiple principles rather than just one command. (For example, Deut. 23:18 or Deut. 24:4). What are the principles of sexual morality that are violated by same-sex relationships?
- The New Testament: What sexual relationships does Jesus approve of? (Mark 10:6-12)
- The New Testament: Carefully created objects have an intended function: A phone is for communication. A hammer is for driving nails. In Romans 1:22-32, what is the intended function or “natural function” of men and women’s bodies?

How are same-sex relationships a departure from this intended function? Romans 1:22-32

- In 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, what does Jesus gladly offer to those in same-sex relationships?

*MODERN CHALLENGES TO FAITH*  
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**#2.) Identity: You Are NOT Your Sexual Attraction**

- While sexual attraction is a significant factor in the lives of many people, it is not the most important or defining factor. Where should we draw our identity from? (2 Corinthians 5:14-17, Galatians 2:20)
- What expectations do all Christians need to understand about resisting temptations? (Luke 9:23, James 1:14-15)
- What resources are available for those seeking to follow Christ and resist temptation?

**#3.) Refuting Justifications To Approve of Same-Sex Relationships**

- What tactics did the Pharisees use to justify their greed and dishonor in Matthew 15:1-6?
- How did the Pharisees feel when Jesus exposed their flawed justifications? (Matt. 15:12-14)

**#4.) Modern Religious Debates**

- How has this debate affected the United Methodist Church / Global Methodist Church?
- How is it affecting churches of Christ today?

**#5.) Additional Reading & Resources**

- Please review the Tim Keller article sent by email.