



SUGAR CREEK

BAPTIST CHURCH

A CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

(All of the online resources that Pastor Mark references in these notes can be found on our church's website.)

<http://www.sugarcreek.net/same-sex-marriage>

Pastor Mark Hartman
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Christianity is a compassionate lifestyle. *Jesus said we are to love our neighbor as ourselves. He reminded us that we are to do unto others as we would have them do to us.* People struggling with the issue of homosexuality need to encounter Christians who will genuinely demonstrate the _____ to help them work through the issues facing them because of this way of life.

Jesus said people will know we are His disciples by our _____.

I. THE BIBLE CLEARLY _____ THE ACT AND LIFESTYLE OF HOMOSEXUALITY.

A. The Old Testament teaching about homosexuality:

The earliest account of homosexuality in the Bible is Genesis 19 – the story of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Leviticus 18:22 “Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman; that is _____.”

Leviticus 20:13 “If a man lies with a man as one lies with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable.”

B. The New Testament teaching about homosexuality:

I Corinthians 6:9, 10 “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 ¹⁰ nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.”

I Timothy 1:9-10 “Realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous man, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers ¹⁰ and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching...”

Romans 1:26-28 “Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. ²⁷ In 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. ²⁸ Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, He gave them over to a depraved mind; to do what ought not to be done.”

Some resources to check out are:

1. Exodus International: www.exodusinternational.org
2. Counseling for Unwanted Same-Sex Attractions: www.focusonthefamily.com/socialissues/social-issues/counseling-for-unwanted-same-sex-attractions.aspx
3. Focus on the Family: Revisionist Gay Theology. www.focusonthefamily.com/socialissues/social-issues/progay-revisionist-theology.aspx
4. The Gay Gospel? How Pro-Gay Advocates Misread the Bible; Joe Dallas
5. What should we do about our son who says he’s a “gay Christian”? www.family.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/26149/related/1

II. DOES GOD _____ PEOPLE TO BE HOMOSEXUALS?

- A. One of the great hoaxes of the early 1990's was the so called discovery of the "_____." It was proven to be a lie. The truth is there is no _____.

What is amazing to me is that typically, the people who believe that others can be born homosexual also believe in Darwinian evolution. But, if you think about it, how can those two things both be true simultaneously? Wouldn't natural selection, by its own definition, have already eliminated anything like a homosexual tendency?

- B. God calls the practice of homosexuality to be sin. God does not create anyone to be a sinner. People can, however, have a propensity and a _____ toward many kinds of behaviors the Bible calls sinful.

Every argument attempting to prove that people are born to be homosexuals is based upon "a strong urge," a "powerful draw," a propensity toward that lifestyle. But all those things can be said about so many other things the Bible calls wrong that it doesn't prove someone is born to do that activity. It simply proves how _____ is.

- C. People who have a strong urge toward wrong behavior are expected by our society to _____ themselves and _____ right over wrong and when they are not being successful to seek help.

- D. "The vast preponderance of evidence clearly indicates that homosexuality is a learned behavior and is not genetically inherited." (Dr. Charles Wahl)

III. WHY WOULD MAKING SAME-SEX MARRIAGE LEGAL BE _____?

Please watch the entire ten minute CNN interview online about same-sex marriage with Jim Garlow & Eliot Spitzer. You will be amazed! <http://vimeo.com/25734643> You won't find the whole interview on CNN's website because they significantly edited it.

1. Same-sex marriage is incompatible with Christianity (and for that matter, Judaism & Islam). The primary reason to oppose same-sex marriage is because the Bible says it is _____.

God is The One who has the authority to define marriage and He clearly defined it in His Word as a permanent union between one man and one woman. In addition, God's Word teaches that homosexual relationships are wrong. Therefore, same-sex marriage is wrong. As Christians we follow the _____ not the _____.

2. If same-sex marriage becomes law it will remove the _____ of every business and individual Christian to choose whether to service that wedding

or not. It will also remove the right for any Christian counselor to give advice against same-sex marriage or make any comments that the homosexual lifestyle is wrong.

An example of the coming infringement of human rights: <http://www.thechurchreport.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=siteContent.default&objectID=151901>

3. Same-sex marriage will _____ infringe on religious freedom to oppose it.
4. Same-sex marriage will eventually be taught in _____ to our children of all ages to be normal and moral and peer pressure will be exerted against children who do not conform.
5. The issue of same-sex marriage is _____ a civil rights issue.
 - a. An argument against connecting same-sex marriage to the 1960's African American's fight for civil rights, by Keith Brown can be found here: <http://keithbrownblogs.blogspot.com/2009/01/gay-rights-movement-vs-civil-rights.html>
 - b. Marriage in America has never been provided for in all situations as a civil right. States regulate marriage in many ways besides denying homosexuals the right to marry. Roughly half of all states prohibit first cousins from marrying, and all prohibit marriage of closer blood relatives. In all states, it is illegal to attempt to marry more than one person, or even to pass off more than one person as one's spouse. Some states restrict the marriage of people carrying sexually transmitted diseases.
 - c. From a legal standpoint, when a state recognizes a marriage, it bestows upon the couple certain benefits which are costly to both the state and other citizens of the state such as: collecting a deceased spouse's social security, claiming an extra tax exemption for a spouse, and having the right to be covered under a spouse's health insurance policy. In a sense, a married couple receives a state recognized subsidy. Why? It is because a marriage between two unrelated heterosexuals is likely to result in children by birth or adoption and therefore further the propagation of our society. That propagation is critical to the future of the country and therefore is in the state's best interest to subsidize it. This is the logical rationale for a state marriage license.
(For more discussion about this go to: The secular Case Against Gay Marriage, www.freerepublic.com/focus/f-news/1082190/posts)
 - d. However, traditionally the state does not provide a subsidy benefit through a marriage license for couples that might not benefit the state by producing or adopting and caring for children in a healthy manner. Individuals who are too closely related, homosexual couples, people with certain sexually transmitted diseases and polygamist couples are not

