

DOCTRINE OF HUMANITY | Week 2

- We are continuing on in our series. Last week we hit 3 things
 - o Created in the image of God and being a reflection of Him
 - o Male and female he created him
 - o And the sinful nature of man
- This week we are going to talk a lot about the sexuality of a person and what is God's view on a multitude of different things but all in reference to this idea of our identity as humans
- However, before we dive into the question, I want to talk about how we approach these topics.
 - o With gentleness and respect
 - o Many times, as believers we like to run in and save the day and tell people well your wrong for this and your wrong for this
 - o 1 Peter 3:15 -16 but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.
 - o You must have love. We are not going into a debate or a workshop to tell people what is wrong with them. This is a loving conversation that is to happen after time. Not in a rude or malicious way at all.
 - o How you approach these things because these are topics that are close to people's hearts. So much depends on the relationship. So, I am going to give you some verses and facts to help you as you walk through these things but know you have to present them a bit different than I will be here.
- Does someone have to get married?
 - o No, God can call people to be single
 - o 1 Corinthians 7 talks a lot about being single and Paul actually wishing people would remain single
- Is sex before marriage, if you intend on marrying the person, sinful?
 - o Yes
 - o Galatians 5:19-21
 - o 1 Corinthians 7:8-9 ⁸To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single, as I am. ⁹But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.
 - o Hebrews 13:4 ⁴Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.
- Can Someone be born Gay or the wrong sex?
 - o In 1993 a study came out that said there is homosexual gene. After further studies they realized that was not correct.
 - o Many times, there are a lot of factors that contribute, abuse that has happened, family dynamics. There is no type of genetics that play into it. It is a choice. It

doesn't always make sense. It's like I'm attracted to blondes or brunettes. It's a preference that has developed over time.

- God does not make mistakes and he is the one that knit you together in your mother's womb
- Can I be attracted to the same sex and still follow Jesus
 - You are born with a sinful nature; we have sinful desires but we must choose to not give into those sinful desires
 - There is a difference between attraction and living that lifestyle
- Is homosexuality, transgenderism, bisexual sinful?
 - Romans 1:26-27
 - 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 ⁹Or do you not know that the unrighteous^(b) will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,^(c) ¹⁰nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.
- Is homosexuality worse than heterosexual sin
 - No - Read 1 Corinthians 6:11
- Can the LGBTQ be a Christian?
 - That depends. Now some of you I'm sure are about to jump out of your seat but hold on. If you define that as someone who has homosexual feelings and tendencies but does not live an active lifestyle, then yes, I believe that they will be in heaven with us. Remember temptation is not a sin but dwelling on it even in your mind can be sin (fantasy). However, a better term to call them would simply be a Christian than a Gay Christian. We all struggle with different things and have many different struggles in our lives as Christian. This is just another struggle that different Christians have. God never promises that a true Christian will not struggle or be tempted and also never promises that those struggles won't come in the form of homosexuality, and remember no Christian is perfect. It is true that Paul says in 1 Cor that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. And I would declare that. If a "believer" is living in an active life of homosexuality, then they need to examine their life.
 - Are they a follower of Jesus or not?
 - Because a follower of Jesus is seeing to walk as Jesus walked and obey him. True, Jesus loves the sinner, but he says to his followers obey me. They do what Jesus says (in the power of his Spirit.) God's word teaches that a homosexual lifestyle is not pleasing to Him, so a true believer would seek to be changed/walk in holiness, etc. True, every believer stumbles - even one working through homosexual feelings/actions. No one is perfect. BUT, if they are a believer, then their heart – once they understand that homosexuality is not in accordance with God's will - humbly seeks to honor the Lord and be conformed to

the image of Jesus. Someone who knows this but continues to say "forget it, I'm going to do what I want" needs to take a close look at their lives. Stiff-arming God's Spirit is a dangerous thing to do, and when I see people consistently do this, I wonder if they ever were a believer in the first place. A person who is a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ does not go around living in unrepentant sin.

- Open for questions
- 1 Peter 3:15-16