

Living with Same Sex Attraction

1. Why live *with* same-sex attraction, rather than live it out?

- Because of the Bible's clear, unambiguous teaching on issues of human sexuality

- **Genesis 2:24, p5** (cf. Matthew 19:1-12, 1 Corinthians 6:16, Ephesians 5:25-33)

"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh."

"Adam is not given a mirror-image companion, he is given a her, and he delights in her correspondence to him, which resides both in her likeness (human) and her difference (female). The pair are literally and figuratively made for each other."

Schmidt, T.E., *Straight and Narrow?* (IVP, Leicester 1995), p.44.

- **Leviticus 18:22, p121**

"Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman; that is detestable."

- **1 Corinthians 6:9-11, p1147**

"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 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. 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."

2. What hope and help does the gospel offer to those who are living with same-sex attraction?

- Good news of a new beginning
- Good news of a new community
- Good news of a new world

Questions for discussion

1. Are people born 'gay', 'bi' or 'straight'? Would it make a difference to a Christian view on same-sex practice if a gay gene were discovered?
2. In what practical ways could the church be more supportive of Christians who battle with same-sex attraction and encourage them to be more open about their struggles?

Recommended Reading

- Theology:** The Bible and Homosexual Practice (Texts and Hermeneutics) - Robert A.J.Gagnon
Holiness & Sexuality, Ed. David Peterson, IVP
Redeeming Singleness, Barry Danylak, Crossway
- Practical Help:** Battles Christians Face (Ch.7), Vaughan Roberts, Authentic
Leaving Homosexuality, Alan Chambers, Harvest House Publishers US
- Witnessing:** Walking with Gay Friends, Alex Tylee, IVP
- Testimonies:** Washed and Waiting, Wesley Hill, Zondervan
What Some of You Were, Ed. Christopher Keane, Good Book Company



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