

5. What is your current understanding of people who are same sex attracted?

6. Read and reflect on the story of Zacchaeus in Luke 19:1-10. Reflect on Zacchaeus' story. What does Jesus say? What doesn't Jesus say? What does it look like for you to minister to someone in the same way that Jesus does?

7. In what areas of your life do you find yourself "bearing with" others who have a struggle or circumstance in their life that is different from yours? What steps can you take to extend kindness and support?

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

Christian Sexuality: Jesus, Sex & Gender

Same Sex Attraction
Matthew 5:27-30, Romans 1:26-31, Luke 19: 1-10

Review: What the Bible teaches about sex sounds really _____ to a lot of people, including the majority of the people whose stories are told in the Bible. But we get our marriage and sex ethic from Jesus.

Marriage is meant to be a _____ commitment.

Marriage is meant to be between one _____ and one _____.

Sex is meant to be experienced _____ in marriage.

These biblical truths raise some questions about same sex attraction, sexuality in general, and the role of the church as the _____ of God.

Three Questions About Same Sex Attraction

1. What does this mean for someone who is _____ or bisexual?

Being gay does not mean you don't love Jesus or that Jesus doesn't _____ you.

"All people need to know that they are beloved by the Creator of the universe. Simply experiencing attraction to the same sex is not a morally culpable sin. Someone can be same-sex attracted (or gay) and faithfully follow God. God gives clear instructions for sex and marriage, and he also loves and cares for ALL people." - Christian Sexuality

"God's love empowers us, not to become straight, but to surrender our brokenness to him daily." Laurie Krieg

2. What does this mean for all of us regarding _____?

Jesus puts us all in the same _____. Matthew 5:27-30

There is something happening here with our _____. When we act upon things we know that God is saying no to, that is sin. Romans 1:26-30

3. What does this mean for the church gathered and _____?

God and his church are not _____.

"LGB/SSA people need to understand that God loves them, values them, and sees them as a beautiful part of his creation. For many people who are attracted to the same sex, this message hasn't always been communicated in the church. This needs to change. And you are part of that change." - Christian Sexuality

We have to _____ what it means to bear with one another. Ephesians 4:2

Resources:

- Regular attenders at Five Oaks have access to the Christian Sexuality curriculum. For access, write "Curriculum Access" on your Connect Card or email the office (office@fiveoakschurch.org)

Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

2. Think about and reflect on areas of your life that are broken and in need of being reformed with grace and truth? Spend some time in prayer to bring these things to God.

3. In what areas of your life or in your struggles has Jesus met you with love first? How has your life and your heart changed as a response to that love?