

# Hope for Homosexuals

## Why is homosexuality wrong?

- God's design for sexual intimacy is found in Gen 2. He designed marriage between 1 man & 1 woman. Sex between same sexes is biblically considered wicked (Gen 13:13), detestable (Lev. 18:22; 20:13); perverted and indecent (Rom 1:26-28; Jude 7).
- Regardless of the contributing factors of homosexuality, the Enemy of our souls uses this devious trap to keep hurting people estranged from God who loves them and has the power to transform their lives.

## What factors lead to homosexuality?

- **Sexual abuse** in childhood or puberty
- **Dysfunctional family life**
  - For males: the common pattern is growing up in a home where mom was dominant & overprotective and where dad was passive, distant, absent, unloving, weak.
  - For females: contributing factors include sexual abuse, poor relationships with parents, abusive father.
- **Experimentation during adolescence**. Because our society, through various means, has subtly and aggressively promoted homosexuality, teens are more apt to experiment with their sexuality not realizing they are setting a course for their lives.

## How does a homosexual find true hope & change?

- True hope is found in repenting of this sinful lifestyle and putting their faith and trust in Jesus Christ, thus beginning a new friendship with our Heavenly Father. 2 Cor 5:17-18 says, *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"* As believers, we have the Holy Spirit of God living in us, empowering us to live according to His purposes, His design (Rom 6:11-14; 8:1-17; I Cor 6:19,20)
- The road to change begins with "heart surgery" and is lived out through a daily process of putting off old practices, being transformed in our minds by the Word of God, and putting on new attitudes and practices (Eph 4:22-24). This requires daily dependence and surrender to the Holy Spirit who is in the process of sanctifying us.
- Along the way, it will be very helpful for the individual to receive biblical counseling and work through issues that contributed to homosexual practices (eg. Past sexual abuse, family issues, etc.)
- Accountability and support are essential and available through the local body of Christ. Internet resources:
  - Bible.org (Homosexuality--The Christian Perspective)
  - Christiananswers.net
  - Exodus international.org

## How can I help my homosexual friend/family member?

- **Pray, pray, pray!** Pray that s/he will recognize their great inner need for Christ. He loves them and has the miraculous power to transform their minds and lives. Apart from Christ, we can do nothing!
- **Love them** without condoning their sinful behavior. Keep pointing him/her to their need for a restored relationship with their Heavenly Father through Christ.
- If/when s/he commits their life to Christ **walk with them** and **help them grow** in their relationship with Christ. Encourage them to deal honestly with their struggles, encourage them to get biblical counseling, accountability, etc.