

Discussion Guide for the Week of May 8, 2022

Asking for a friend... 🙏

A Series For Your Questions

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. It is a loss if all your group does is read and answer these questions. They are conversation starters not the final goal. The final goal is discussion and discipleship. Remember, we want God's answers, not man's so land where God lands. (ex: Where do we see that in the Bible?) Give grace & time for growth. It takes time, love, good questions, & support.

Connect

- What is a purchase you eventually came to regret?
- You have one minute to speak to the entire nation on national television. What one or two key things would you like to tell them?

Context

We are in the third week of a series entitled "Asking for a Friend." We want to avoid simplistic definitive answers to the questions. We will leave room for doubts, struggles, and more because we often learn more and take ownership more deeply when we deeply process and struggle through our questions. One of the biggest mistakes we can make is not listening to the hearts and thoughts of others. We often spend more time trying to prove a point instead of understanding someone. Stay flexible, patient, respectful, gentle, and open-minded. We want to have honest conversations around some really big questions you've asked, or others have asked you. As you discuss things, don't feel like you have to have all the answers, or that you cannot leave the conversation with "let's pray about that, do some research on what the Bible says, and discuss that again next time we get together." Remember: "Don't just give people the right answer, give them a Christ centered relationship." - Dave Rizer

This week's question is: "Does God's view of us change if we are bisexual?"

If your group or family has not listened to the weekend message for this question (Rated PG), please do that before walking into this discussion guide. It is vitally important that everyone has the same working foundation for discussion. [You can find the message here.](#)

Engage the Bible

Prayerfully Read the passages and share Takeaways and Observations:

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." - John 1:14

"So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." - Genesis 1:27

"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." - Psalm 139:14

The way of Jesus is Grace and Truth.

Grace: God Created Everyone

Grace: God Loves Everyone

Truth: God Designed the Sexual Standard

- God's Sexual Standard was between a man and woman in a monogamous lifetime commitment of marriage.

Truth: Sin Wrecked the Sexual Standard

- Anything outside God's original design for sexual standards is sin.

“Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. 19 Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.” - 1 Corinthians 6:18-20

Helpful Biblical passages to read as a group as you answer the questions below:

[Matthew 19:4](#), [John 8:10-11](#), [John 3:16](#), [1 John 4:10](#)

Biblical References to Homosexuality: Old Testament: [Genesis 19](#), [Judges 19](#), [Leviticus 18](#), [Leviticus 20](#). New Testament: [Romans 1](#), [1 Corinthians 6](#), [1 Timothy 1](#).

Question: “Does God’s view of us change if we are bisexual?” - Answer: NO!

God’s view of you doesn’t change as a result of your choices. I think we need to see this at the deepest level before going any further. When we start thinking God’s view of us changes as a result of our actions, our choices, or our sexual orientation we miss a greater, deeper, more powerful message of God that’s been communicating about humanity from the very beginning. It’s why we can talk about the confidence we have in salvation - all of us are sons and daughters in need of salvation, transformation, and invited to a new way of life as apprentices of Jesus living in and for the Kingdom of God.

Discuss

Begin your discussion time with prayer.

1. What do you think of when you hear that the way of Jesus begins with grace and truth?
2. How have you seen that to be true in your life? Where has Jesus demonstrated His graceful approach to you? Where has the truth of Jesus positively impacted your life?
3. Do you generally lean more towards grace or truth in your relationships?
4. What encourages you in this week’s message and reading? What challenges you?
5. If you had to describe God’s love for you to someone, what would you share?
6. How can God’s love for us give us courage to take steps towards the Lord in how we view identity, sexuality, and relationships?
7. How does God’s design for life and sexuality in the passages listed above help you order and view your life today? Why is it important to have a biblically informed and trained worldview or outlook on life?
8. Why do you think it’s so hard sometimes to align ourselves with God’s design for marriage, sexuality, and righteous pursuits?
9. Where should we go first for our understanding of identity, sexuality, relationships, marriage, and life?
10. How can we allow God’s truth, grace and gentleness to lead us when we face a temptation or are confused by something we don’t understand or don’t like?
11. How can we best approach difficult and emotional subjects like homosexuality and bisexuality where people can differ in opinion so greatly? How can we most effectively reflect Jesus, grace, hope, and love?

End Your Group Time in Prayer

Want to Dive Deeper? Check Out

Books: *Messy Grace* by Caleb Kaltenbach,
Gay Girl, Good God by Jacky Hill Perry,
The Rise and Triumph of Modern Self by Carl R. Trueman

Podcast: [Things Above Podcast: A Conversation with John Mark Comer](#)

