



Life Seminar: Evangelism and Loving Our LGBT  
Neighbors  
Summer 2018  
Notes

What this Life Seminar Is and Is Not

- It is not a definitive study.
- It is a study addressing the question from a Christian perspective.
- It is a study that assumes that the Bible is the perfect, inerrant Word of God.

Today is going to be about setting up some pillars that are going to uphold our conversation over these 5 sessions.

Pillar 1: God made us sexual beings to promote companionship, procreation, stability and human flourishing.

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***Genesis 2:18–25 (ESV)** — 18 Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.” 19 Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. 20 The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. 21 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. 22 And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. 23 Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.” 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.*

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What do we see in these verses that point to the biblical model for companionship and mating?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

But we run risks of being labeled:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Luke 6:37-49
- b. John 8:1-11
  - i. Portions of each of these passages are often used as proof-texts to chastise those who hold to a traditional view of gender and sexuality
  - ii. But when we read them in their whole, what do we see that shows us that tolerance and love are not synonymous?

Pillar 2: The command to love our neighbor as ourselves comes from and is subordinate to the command to love God supremely.

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***Matthew 22:35–40 (ESV) — 35** And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. **36** “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” **37** And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. **38** This is the great and first commandment. **39** And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. **40** On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”*

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There is no room in the Christian faith for...

1. Violence (physical or emotional) against LGBT individuals
2. Disrespect of LGBT individuals as people created in God’s image
3. An attitude other than grace-filled love toward them that would reflect the grace-filled love God, in Christ, showed you.

So, why isn’t it more loving to just agree that “if it isn’t hurting anyone, it’s fine.” Because it is.

1. Because it does not lead to happiness, stability, and human flourishing. (all stats from 2017 CDC study)
  - a. 9x’s greater risk of HIV

- b. Homosexual men are the single-largest health risk category
- c. 2.5 – 37x's greater risk of many kinds of cancer
- d. Far more promiscuity. 68% of gay men report having unprotected sex with someone they did not know the health status of.
- e. While STD's are decreasing in the population, they are rampant across the board in the homosexual community
- f. 5x's more likely to abuse drugs and alcohol
- g. 6.5x's more likely to attempt suicide

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*John 14:15 (ESV) — 15 “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.*

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Would a loving God allow someone to be born LGBT and then call it sin?

Pillar 3: The Bible is not a book about homosexuality, but sin. The ultimate issue is not that we are attracted to one sex or another or that we identify as one sex or another, but that we are all sinners called by grace to repentance and faith.

Evangelism is the same from one person to the next.  
Pre-evangelism is different.

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*Romans 3:23 (ESV) — 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,*

*Romans 5:8 (ESV) — 8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

*Romans 6:23 (ESV) — 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

*Romans 10:9–10 (ESV) — 9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.*

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Q&A

Next Week: So, what does the Bible say about LGBT and can we trust it? Read Is God Anti-Gay?  
Introduction and chapter 1