

THE GOSPEL & SEXUALITY

Part 1 - What the Gospel Requires

Simi Hills Bible Class | December 2025

CLASS 1:

What the Gospel Requires

- ＊ God's design for male and female
- ＊ Biblical principles about same-sex relations
- ＊ Framing the issue

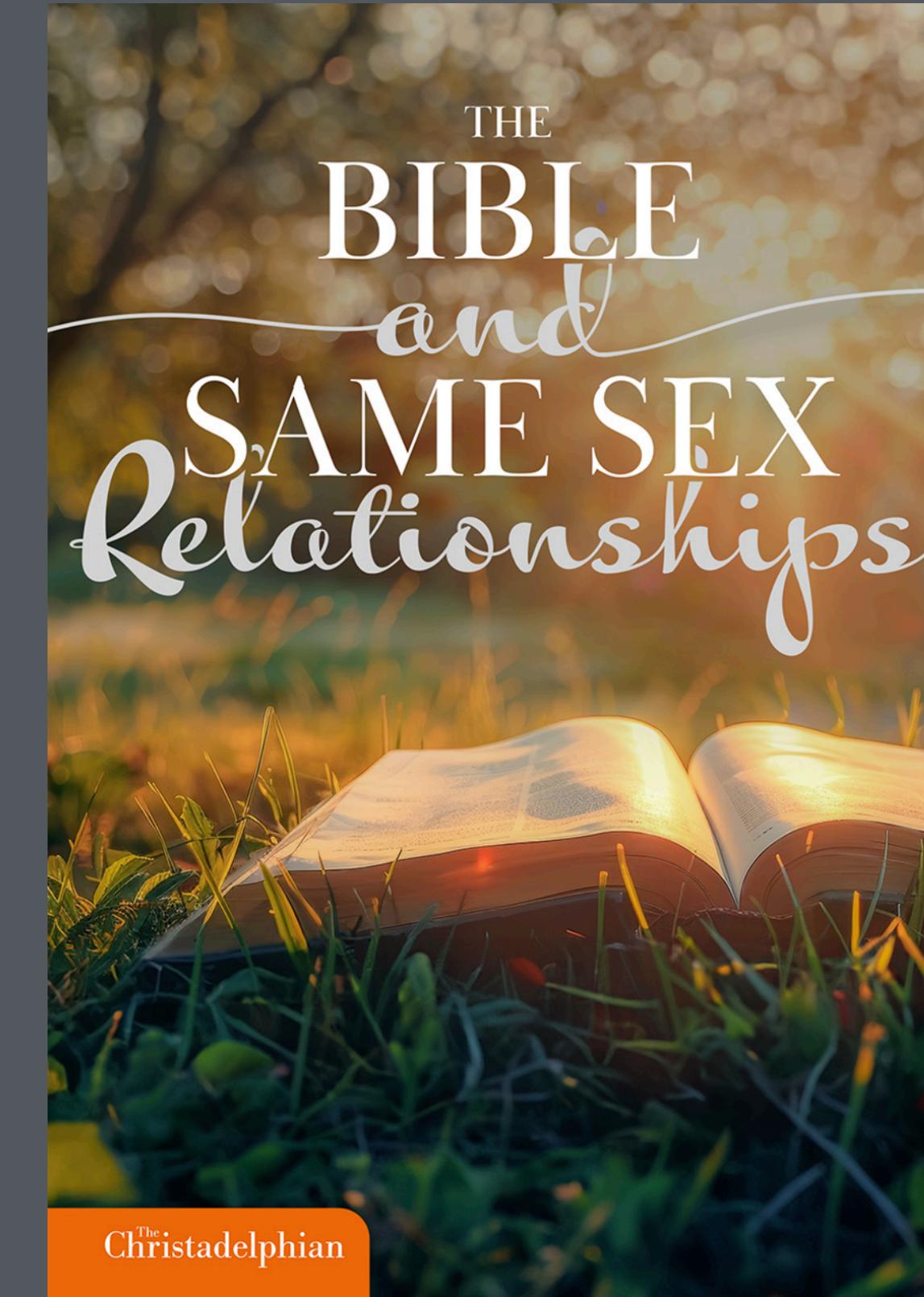
CLASS 2:

Living up to the Gospel

- ＊ The societal challenge
- ＊ The individual challenge
- ＊ The ecclesial challenge

RECOMMENDED RESOURCE:

**The Bible & Same Sex
Relationships, Mark Vincent**



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GOD'S DESIGN: MALE & FEMALE

Gen. 1:27-28 “So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; **male and female created he them.** And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion... over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.”

Gen. 2:18 (YLT) “Not good for the man to be alone, I do make to him an helper—as his counterpart.”

2:23-24 “And Adam said, This *is* now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.”

MATTHEW 19:4-6

“HE ANSWERED, ‘HAVE YOU NOT READ THAT HE WHO CREATED THEM FROM THE BEGINNING MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE, AND SAID, ‘THEREFORE A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND HIS MOTHER AND HOLD FAST TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH’? SO THEY ARE NO LONGER TWO BUT ONE FLESH. WHAT THEREFORE GOD HAS JOINED TOGETHER, LET NOT MAN SEPARATE.’”

Hebrews 13:4 God designed sexual potential to be exercised exclusively within a husband-wife marriage to:

- * Build families that fill the earth** Gen. 1:28; Psa. 127:3-5;
128:3-4; Mal. 2:15
- * Foster unity and intimacy** Gen. 2:24; Eph. 5:31-32
- * Give joyful physical satisfaction** Prov. 5:18-19; Song.
7:6-10
- * Express mutual submission & selfless love** 1 Cor. 7:3-5

BIRMINGHAM AMENDED STATEMENT OF FAITH

Clause 5: “That Adam broke this law, and was adjudged unworthy of immortality, and sentenced to return to the ground from whence he was taken-a sentence which defiled and became a physical law of his being, and was transmitted to all his posterity.”

Gen. 6:5 “And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and *that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*”

Ecc. 9:3 “Yea, also the **heart** of the sons of men is **full of evil**, and **madness is** in their **heart** while they live, and after that *they go to the dead*”

Jer. 17:9 (RV) “The **heart** is **deceitful above all things**, and it is **desperately sick** (YLT ‘**incurable**’): who can know it?”

Mark 7:21-23 “For **from within, out of the heart of man**, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

GOD PROHIBITS ANY TYPE OF SEXUAL ACTIVITY THAT IS OUTSIDE OF A HUSBAND- WIFE MARRIAGE RELATIONSHIP

- ✳ **Sexual immorality** 1 Cor. 6:18, 1 Thess. 4:3-5
- ✳ **Lustful fantasy** Mat. 5:27-28
- ✳ **Adultery** Ex. 20:14, Prov. 6:32
- ✳ **Same-sex relations** Rom. 1:26-27, Lev. 18:22
- ✳ **Prostitution (All parties involved)** Lev. 23:27-28; Deut. 23:17-18; 1 Cor. 6:15-16
- ✳ **Exploitation** Ex. 22:16-17; 2 Sam. 13:1-22
- ✳ **Incest** Lev. 18:6-18; 1 Cor. 5:1-2
- ✳ **Rape** Deut. 22:25-29
- ✳ **Bestiality** Lev. 18:23

DEFINING TERMS

AFFIRMING

Christians who believe that loving, monogamous same-sex relationships and marriages are morally valid and blessed by God.

NON-AFFIRMING

Christians who believe that the only Biblically valid marriages are those between men and women, and that any same-sex sexual activity is sinful.

DEFINING TERMS

- **Sexual Orientation:** “an enduring pattern of emotional, romantic, and/or sexual attractions to men, women, or both sexes”
- **Homosexuality*** “sexual, romantic, or emotional attraction or activity between members of the same sex”
- **Heterosexual** “having emotional, romantic, or sexual attractions to members of the other sex”
- **Gay/Lesbian** “having emotional, romantic, or sexual attractions to members of one’s own sex”
- **Bisexual** “having emotional, romantic, or sexual attractions to both men and women”

American Psychological Association. (2008, October 29). Understanding sexual orientation and homosexuality. <https://www.apa.org/topics/lgbtq/orientation>

SAME-SEX ATTRACTION

sexual, emotional, or romantic attraction to members of the same sex, used by those who wish to avoid the connotations of other labels

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES ABOUT SAME-SEX RELATIONS

GENESIS 19:1-11

THE SINS OF SODOM

- * Materialism
- * Pride
- * Ungodliness
- * Injustice
- * Sexual Immorality

Jude 1:7

Ezekiel 16:46-56

Isaiah 1:9-15; 3:8-9

Jeremiah 23:14-17

2 Peter 2:6

Luke 17:28-37

cp. the Crime of Gibeah

- * Judges 19:22-30

SODOMITES?

קדש / קדשה

Qadesh (Quedesah)

Strong #H6945: “a (quasi) sacred person, that is, (technically) **a (male) devotee (by prostitution) to licentious idolatry**”

Strong #H6948 “feminine of H6945; a female devotee (that is, prostitute)”

Gen. 38:21-22; Deut. 23:16-17; 1 Kng. 14:24; 15:12; 22:46; 2 Kng. 23:7; Job. 36:14; Hos. 4:14

“This word does not denote an inhabitant of Sodom... but is employed in the A.V. of the Old Test. for those who practiced as a religious rite the abominable and unnatural vice from which the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah have derived their lasting infamy.”

The Cyclopaedia of Biblical, Theological, and Ecclesiastical Literature. James Strong and John McClintock; Harper and Brothers; NY; 1880.

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פֶּלֶב

keleb

Strong #H3611 “From an unused root meaning to yelp, or else to attack; a dog; hence (by euphemism) **a male prostitute:**”

Deut. 23:18

LEVITICUS 18:22; 20:13

Explicitly prohibits
male+male relations

General restriction
applies to any type of
sexual activity between two
men

Only condemns the action
as an abomination, not the
temptation or orientation

All participants are held
responsible equally

1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-10

Berean Study Bible: “men who submit to or perform homosexual acts”

Practicing homosexuality is listed among other behaviors that will bar inheritance in the Kingdom

1 TIMOTHY 1:8-11

Practicing homosexuality is included in a list of behaviors that are lawless and contrary to sound doctrine.

ROMANS

VERSE 23

They exchanged God's glory for idolatry

VERSE 24-25

They exchanged serving God for serving self

VERSE 26-27

They exchanged 'natural' sexual relations for ones 'contrary to nature'

"Dishonoring of their bodies"

1 Cor. 6:18-20 "the sexually immoral person sins against his own **body**... your **body** is a temple of the Holy Spirit... you were bought with a price, so glorify God in your **body**"

ROMANS

VERSE 28

And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased (KJV “reprobate”) mind **to do what ought not to be done”**

VERSE 32

Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in (ESV “Approve of”) them that do them.

PRINCIPLES:

- ＊ All male-male & female-female relations are broadly condemned
- ＊ A Reprobate mind = someone who rebels against God by filling their life with all types of sinful indulgence
- ＊ Both those who practice and approve of these sins are condemned

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES

- ✳ All Bible teaching about marriage refers exclusively to male/female, husband/wife unions
- ✳ The **pursuit & practice** of same-sex desire is always listed among other 'abominable' sins that dishonor God, oppose sound doctrine, and will exclude the unrepentant from His Kingdom
- ✳ God holds any **participant** in same-sex sin accountable
- ✳ Only the **practice** is condemned, never the attraction or orientation
- ✳ God views same-sex sin as rebellion against his purpose in designing humans, sex, and marriage

FRAMING THE ISSUE

THE GOSPEL IS FOR EVERYONE

Romans 1:16 The Gospel is God's power to save everyone who believes.

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the Glory of God"

Romans 3:24 "Being **justified** freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus"

1 Corinthians 6:9-10 "Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God."

1 Corinthians 6:11 "And such were some of you. 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."

*THE EXPERIENCE OF SAME-SEX
ORIENTATION OR ATTRACTION ***IS NOT***
SINFUL.

*ACTING UPON SAME-SEX ATTRACTION ***IS A***
SIN.

*THE GOSPEL HAS THE SOLUTION FOR **BOTH**.

THE GOSPEL & SEXUALITY

Part 2 - Living Up To The Gospel

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CLASS 1: What the Gospel Requires

- * God's design for male and female
- * Biblical principles about same-sex relations
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CLASS 2: Living up to the Gospel

- * The societal challenge
- * The individual challenge
- * The ecclesial challenge

THE SOCIETAL CHALLENGE

**STRANGERS &
PILGRIMS
SHOULDN'T
PURSUE
POLITICAL
SOLUTIONS TO
SOCIETAL
PROBLEMS**

- ✳ Voting
- ✳ Activism & Lobbying
- ✳ Donating to Political Causes
- ✳ Running for Public Office
- ✳ Protesting & Demonstrating
- ✳ Bearing Arms

*Mark 12:17; John 18:36; Rom. 12:18; 13:1-2;
Heb. 11:13-16; 1 Pet. 2:13-17*

1 CORINTHIANS 5:9-12

“I WROTE TO YOU IN MY LETTER NOT TO ASSOCIATE WITH SEXUALLY IMMORAL PEOPLE— NOT AT ALL MEANING THE SEXUALLY IMMORAL OF THIS WORLD, OR THE GREEDY AND SWINDLERS, OR IDOLATERS, SINCE THEN YOU WOULD NEED TO GO OUT OF THE WORLD... FOR WHAT HAVE I TO DO WITH JUDGING OUTSIDERS?”

JOHN 17:15-18

“I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.”

Mark 2:17 “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

AUDIENCE

Mark 1:14
“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

MESSAGE

Matt. 11:28-30 “I will give you rest... I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

PROMISE

THE INDIVIDUAL CHALLENGE



**WHERE DOES IT
COME FROM?**

JAMES 1:14-15

MARK 9:21-23

“From within, out of the heart of man proceed evil thoughts...”

ROMANS 7:18-24

“Sin that dwells in me...a law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, bringing me into captivity.”

“But each person is **tempted** when he is lured and enticed **by his own desire**.

Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin,

and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.”

HEBREWS 4:15

“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been **tempted** as we are, yet **without sin**.”

GOD LOVES YOU

HE KNOWS YOU
INTIMATELY
BECAUSE HE
CREATED YOU

Psa. 139:13-16;
Jer. 1:5;
Lk. 12:7;
Matt. 6:26-30;
Act. 17:25-28

HE
UNDERSTANDS
EVERYTHING YOU
STRUGGLE WITH

Psa. 56:8; 78:38-39;
103:10-17; 139:1-4;
1 Cor. 10:13;
2 Cor. 12:7-10;
Heb. 2:17-18; 4:14-16

AND HE STILL
HAS A
PURPOSE FOR
YOU

Rom. 8:20,28
2 Cor. 4:15-17
Php. 1:6; **2:12-13**;
Jas. 1:12;
1 Pet. 1:6-7



CAN IT BE OVERCOME?

SEPARATION

(Mental Change)

Choose who to serve & identify with

Practical Steps:

- **Identify** the desires that need to be crucified
- Separate from sinful relationships, pursuits, and practices
- Repent & Be Baptized
- Embrace new **identity** in Christ.

KEY VERSES

- Josh. 24:15
- Dan. 1:8
- Act. 26:18
- Rom. 6:11-13
- 2 Cor. 6:17-18
- Col. 3:1-3
- Heb. 11:24-26

SANCTIFICATION

(Moral Change)

Crucify the Flesh & live by the spirit

Practical Steps:

- Resist temptations of the flesh through the word, prayer, & fellowship
- Pursue the fruit of the spirit; develop the mind of Christ
- Repent, confess & find forgiveness when you sin
- Serve God in whatever situation you find yourself.

KEY VERSES

- Lk. 9:23
- Rom. 6:1-13, 19-22
- Rom. 8:1-13
- Gal. 5:16-25
- Eph. 4:22-24
- Php. 2:1-5
- 1 Thess. 4:3-4
- Heb. 10:24-25;
12:10-14
- John 17:17

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* **Conversion therapy** is often harmful, and rarely effective

* **Mixed-orientation marriage:** Only enter with a high degree of caution, transparency, maturity, and faithfulness

* **Celibate Singleness:** The best option for many.

GLORIFICATION

(Physical Change)

Receive a full and total change of nature

Practical Steps:

- Accounted worthy at the judgement seat
- Receive a changed nature in a perfected, immortal body with no more temptation or corruption
- Enter a new stage of reality & relationships that transcend earthly sexuality
- Experience the joy of being fully satisfied in perfect oneness with God and the Lord Jesus.

PRESENTED FAULTLESS AT THE JUDGEMENT

Lk. 20:34-36; 2 Thess. 1:5;
Jud 1:24;

CHANGE OF NATURE

Job 14:14; Rom. 8:17-23,30;
1 Cor. 15:23-54; Phil.
3:20-21;

SATISFACTION & FULLNESS OF JOY

Psa. 16:11; 17:15; 36:8-9
Matt. 5:6; 2 Cor. 4:17; 1 Jn.
3:1-2



IS IT FAIR?

LUKE 9:23-25

**"AND HE SAID TO THEM ALL, IF ANY MAN WILL
COME AFTER ME, LET HIM DENY HIMSELF, AND
TAKE UP HIS CROSS DAILY, AND FOLLOW ME. FOR
WHOSOEVER WILL SAVE HIS LIFE SHALL LOSE
IT: BUT WHOSOEVER WILL LOSE HIS LIFE FOR
MY SAKE, THE SAME SHALL SAVE IT. FOR WHAT
IS A MAN ADVANTAGED, IF HE GAIN THE WHOLE
WORLD, AND LOSE HIMSELF, OR BE CAST
AWAY?"**

SACRIFICED RELATIONSHIPS

- * Abraham
- * Ruth
- * Hosea
- * Jeremiah
- * Ezekiel
- * Daniel
- * Esther
- * Anna
- * Jesus
- * Paul

MARK 10:29-30 "THERE IS NO MAN THAT HATH LEFT HOUSE, OR BRETHREN, OR SISTERS, OR FATHER, OR MOTHER, OR WIFE, OR CHILDREN, OR LANDS, FOR MY SAKE, AND THE GOSPEL'S, BUT HE SHALL RECEIVE AN HUNDREDFOLD NOW IN THIS TIME... AND IN THE WORLD TO COME, ETERNAL LIFE."

THEY SHALL RECEIVE A HUNDREDFOLD

THE CHILDLESS

Psa. 113:9; Isa. 54:1; 56:3-5

THE SOLITARY

Psa. 68:6

THE FATHERLESS

Gal. 3:26; 2 Cor. 6:18, Jn. 1:12-13; 1 Jn. 3:1-2

THE SPOUSELESS

Isa. 54:4-6; Hos. 2:19-20

THE EXILE

Psa. 107:2-7; Heb. 11:13-16

THE OUTCAST

Isa. 56:6-8

**THE
ECCLESIA
IS YOUR
NEW
FAMILY!**

**Matt. 12:49-50
1 Tim. 5:1-2**

THE ECCLESIAL CHALLENGE

USE WORDS TO GIVE GRACE

James 3:6
Proverbs 12:18
Proverbs 15:4
Ephesians 4:24

FEED
EMOTIONAL
NEEDS BY
INVITING
OTHERS IN

Matthew 23:4
Galatians 6:2
Acts 20:35
Romans 15:1
1 Thessalonians 5:14

SHARE THE
BURDENS
OTHERS
CARRY

PRACTICAL PRACTICES SUGGESTIONS

- ✿ **Don't** make false equivalencies:
 - Same-sex orientation or desire with same-sex sin
 - Godliness with heterosexuality
 - Marriage with spiritual maturity
 - Movements with individuals
- ✿ **Don't** use hurtful speech that mocks & belittles
- ✿ **Don't** define people only by their sexual orientation
- ✿ **Don't** oversimplify issues or minimize struggles
- ✿ **Don't** make the ecclesia cater only to natural families

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS

- * Do foster an environment where honesty & vulnerability are valued
- * Do listen with compassion to understand
- * Do normalize celibate singleness as a valued spiritual path
- * Do provide life-long support and community
- * Do emphasize the fullness of grace, joy, and hope promised in the Gospel