

LifeGroup Discussion

When we began this series, we examined Jesus' encounter with a sexually immoral woman at the well. Jesus is our model on what is important when we engage with people whose lifestyle and standards fall short of biblical holiness. Learn from Jesus on how to respond to people with same sex attraction.

1. The woman was shocked that Jesus would engage with her at the well in John 4:7-9. What kind of attitude do you see Jesus exhibit in response to her objection? How would you respond---Engage, Withdraw, Ignore, Avoid.
2. As Jesus engaged with this woman, He was fully aware of her immoral lifestyle. Yet He persisted. Why do you think He continued to engage with her? What did He emphasize in John 4:10-15? What do you have to offer to anyone you engage with today? Do you persist in loving people that you disagree with? Why or why not?
3. We walk a fine line of engaging with people but not endorsing their behavior. What did Jesus say to her in John 4:15-19? What kind of attitude should you have as you maintain your convictions? What does Romans 2:4 say to do to bring someone to repentance?
4. Because Jesus took the risk to engage with this woman, and approached her in kindness and grace, what was the outcome of that encounter in John 4:27-30? Is that your hope for all your relationships with people that you may disagree with? How should you pray for your own heart and attitude? Take time to pray for those that need Jesus and how you can reveal Him through your own life.

Next Steps

1. Join us Wednesday at 7:00 pm for Common Ground Conversations in Fellowship Hall. We'll be continuing the conversation on this morning's topic with Calvary's Counseling Pastor Jim McCarty who will be leading a panel discussion with our guest from today Sean McDowell along with Steve and Barb Paulsen on their ministry with Living Waters and Cross Current - Christ-centered support groups for men and women seeking truth and grace in their sexuality and relationships. See weekly topics at calvarylife.org/series
2. Read Sean McDowell's book, *Same Sex Marriage: A Thoughtful Approach to God's Design for Marriage*. This book is available for purchase at Sean McDowell's table in the Lobby today.
3. Study I Corinthians 6:9-20. Note the full range of sinful behaviors in verses 9-10 that keep people separated from God. Then look at verse 11 - this was good news for the church in Corinth and it is still good news for us today! Consider how God may be inviting you to accept this good news about the work of Jesus, to "flee immorality" (v. 18) and to "glorify God in your body" (v. 20).
4. Be willing to seek counseling to overcome a critical or judgmental spirit against others who may be dealing with issues of sexuality in the midst of culture's changing definitions on marriage. To learn more about the Calvary Life Counseling Center, visit calvarylife.org/counseling
5. Join a LifeGroup to find mutual support so you can have the heart and mind on troubling issues. LifeGroups are ongoing small group communities that gather together throughout the week to CONNECT in a smaller setting, GROW together in our faith, and REACH out together to our community. calvarylife.org/lifegroups