

# What to Say to Your Friends about the Bible and Homosexuality

If you know the biblical interpretations that legitimate these responses, you will recognize their appropriateness and power. If you don't, you might benefit from a four-hour seminar that covers this material in detail. Call Rev. Kindle at (415) 686-0093 or e-mail him at [revkindle@clergyunited.org](mailto:revkindle@clergyunited.org) to bring this seminar to your area.

A brochure for "Beyond the Bible and Homosexuality: A Journey into the Heart of God" is available on this website.

## **The response of consistency**

"Although you may believe that the Bible condemns homosexuals, it also condemns many things which we accept today. These include eating pork, growing hybrid crops, women wearing pants, and working on Saturday. How can it be proper to cling to this one prohibition and dismiss the others?"

## **The response of more light**

"The Bible also approves of many things we condemn today, including polygamy, slavery, levirate marriage, subordination of women, and genocide. Your disapproval of these things (that the Bible approves) indicates that you don't believe that just because the Bible once considered them proper that they are necessarily right for us today. We learn more and we move ahead."

## **The response of proper motivation**

"I've looked at the Bible verses that seem to condemn homosexuality. Most of them have nothing to do with homosexuality. The most that can be said is that certain homoerotic acts were condemned because the people were turning sex into an idol and acting out of lust. All heteroerotic acts stemming from the same reasons were condemned also. It isn't the kind of sex that's wrong, just the motivations for doing it."

## **The response of "Aha!"**

"Did you know there is no word in Hebrew or Greek (the languages of the Bible) for homosexual? How can the Bible be said to condemn what it doesn't know exists?"

## **The response of pro-life**

"When Jesus violated the Sabbath by feeding himself and his disciples, he taught us that laws are to serve humans, not stand in their way. Even the Sabbath law, the violation of which meant being stoned to death, could be set aside for the sake of human compassion. Jesus would say that laws or beliefs that serve to dehumanize homosexuals need to be discarded.

## **The response of love**

"I'm not a scholar, so I can't say I have studied the issues completely, but I can say that what Jesus expects from us is very simple: We are to love one another. What we must be about is removing the barriers between people, not helping to maintain them in their rigid place."